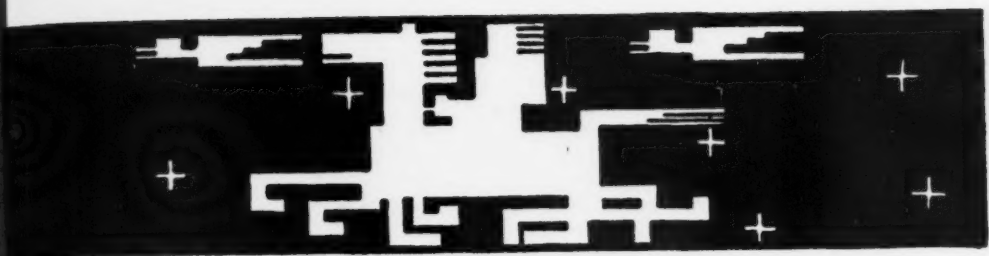


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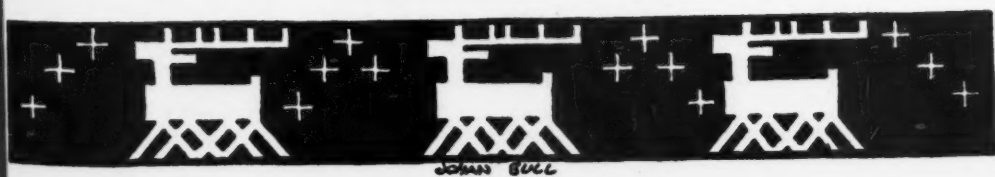


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ZORN MUSEUM IN MORA

VALLKULLA

Oil Painting by Anders Zorn 1908

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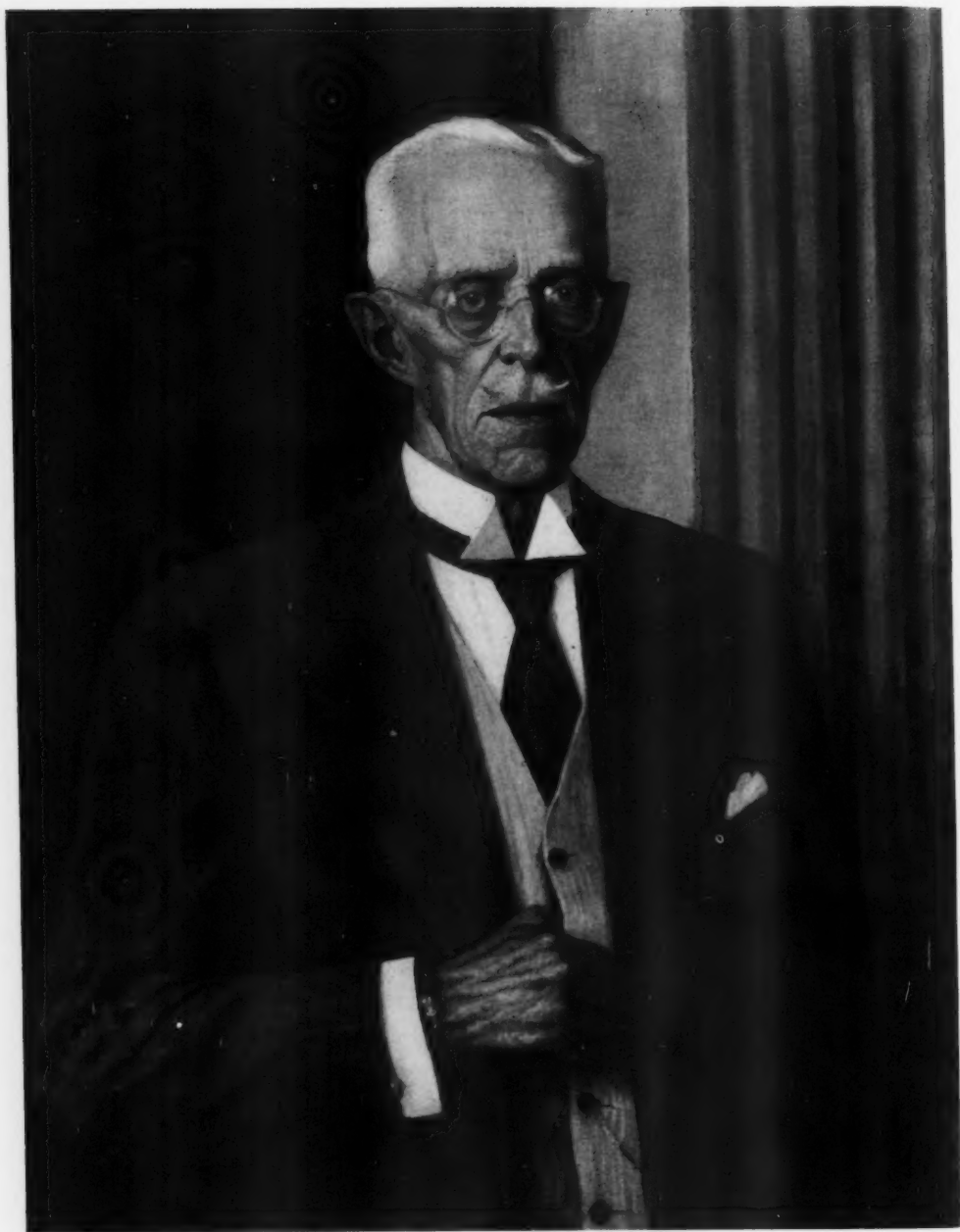
Sweden

BY JOSEPH AUSLANDER

LANDSCAPE of gods and heroes, tranquil Sweden,
Where Death might well forego his sombre duty
To taste eternity in demi-Eden
And stand irresolute before such beauty:

Land of long-winding waterways, clear waters
And sunny meadows, farms and homes and steeples,
With gods for sons and goddesses for daughters—
O happy land! O happiest of peoples!

Stay so, in this confused and fearful hour,
Amid the tempests and the tides appalling,
A fortress to the soul, a beacon tower
Whose hand of light may keep the sky from falling!



HIS MAJESTY KING GUSTAF V OF SWEDEN

King Gustaf V died October 29, 1950, at the age of ninety-two after a reign of forty-three years. Since 1913 His Majesty was Royal Patron of The American-Scandinavian Foundation. Michel Werboff, in 1947, made the painting reproduced here, the last for which His Majesty posed.



HIS MAJESTY KING GUSTAF VI ADOLF

As Crown Prince for many years His Majesty has been Honorary Trustee of The American-Scandinavian Foundation and Honorary President of The Sweden-America Foundation. The photograph reproduced here was made on the occasion of a visit to the United States.

The Ancient Stave Churches of Norway

By E. R. YARHAM

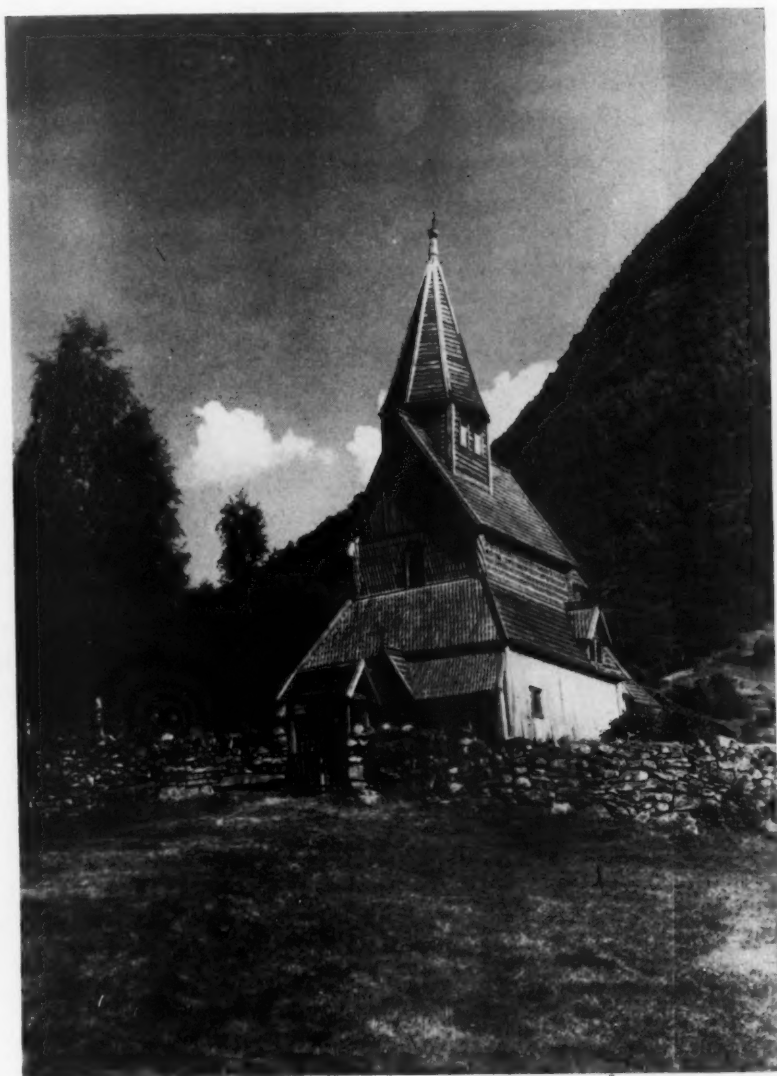
TO THE VISITOR to that northern European kingdom of magnificent mountains, stupendous precipices, and fjords of indescribable grandeur—Norway, among the most remarkable survivals of an age that has passed are the ancient stave churches. They are often situated in a deep valley flanked by giant peaks or impressively perched on some headland overlooking a winding fjord.

These time-worn structures are built with massive timbers that are now black with age, many of them grotesquely carved. There they have stood in the midst of an environment of majestic beauty since the days of the Vikings. Made throughout of pine, fir, or other soft wood, their scaly appearance as of some prehistoric or oriental monster, is due to the whole of their exterior being covered with small pointed shingles, which have been preserved through the years by the frequent application of pitch.

This, and the mellowing of age, give them a rich brown colour, and their gables, grouped to a pyramid—unusual in an age of protruding upper storeys—and each surmounted by a dragon-like head seeming to spit forth flame, further enhance their fantastic aspect. The carvings have lost none of their impressiveness with the passage of centuries. The dragons of the Vikings are not merely decorative compositions, but the productions of men who knew what it was “to wrestle with the sea-serpent upon cerulean sands.”

Although their structural details conform to those of stone buildings, in architectural design the stave churches make a complete break with tradition. Indeed, the prevailing impression is an eastern one, a many-roofed structure most nearly approximate to a Chinese pagoda. Yet such a likeness is discounted by students of architecture, although some see both Irish and Byzantine influence in their craftsmanship.

At one time there were about three hundred of these *stavkirker*, or stave churches, in Norway, but fire, neglect, and even deliberate destruction have taken heavy toll of them. In some instances, as at Hegg in the Valdres valley, the remains show evidence of former beauty, in this particular case splendidly carved doors. To-day hardly a score of stave churches survive, and these are rightly strictly pre-



Henriksen and Steen

URNES

The Oldest Stave Church in Norway; Dating from the Eleventh Century.

served as national treasures, so that the fate which befell the one that formerly stood in the village of Vang will not be theirs. This church was sold to the King of Prussia in 1841, and he had it transported to Silesia.

A different fate met the stave church at Gol, in the Hallingdal. This was taken down and re-erected in the Folk Museum at Bygdø, a



FANTOFT STAVE CHURCH

suburb of Oslo. The museum illustrates the lives of the people in many periods and the stave church fittingly stands in the midst. It contains specimens of ecclesiastical art and craftsmanship from the middle of the sixteenth century to about the end of the eighteenth. Nevertheless, although this is better than destruction, one cannot help feeling that the proper place for a stave church is amid the environment of mountain and fjord where it was first built.

It was Hans Dahl, the celebrated Norwegian painter of his country's landscape, who, in the second half of last century, drew the attention of the outside world to these unique buildings. In those days a journey to Norway was not nearly so easy to accomplish as now, but as soon as architects studied the old wooden churches they were struck with admiration for their builders, and especially by the marvellous carvings. This century the national and exquisite craft of wood-carving has experienced a revival. It is one of the oldest of Norwegian industrial arts, and it shows a definite line of development from the days of the Vikings who carved in bold design the figureheads which ornamented their longships, and which terrified the inhabitants of more southerly Europe when these sea rovers descended upon their



Wilse

BORGUND STAVE CHURCH AND CLOISTER

coasts. The most interesting and most highly developed aspect of the art is seen in the massive and richly-carved doorways—such as those at Hegg—to the stave churches.

Looking at these venerable buildings, even the most amateur architectural observer cannot fail to have the impression that in many respects they are not only pagoda-like but resemble the old Viking longships resting upon the stocks or even cleaving the ocean. The church at Hitterdal (Heddal), for instance, the largest of its kind,

built during the thirteenth century, has a very fine exterior, and it imparts the impression of a great broad-beamed boat sailing unchallenged on her majestic course.

The fact that the stave churches are often near fjords makes it very probable that their erectors were the skilled boat-builders of medieval times, and they may have adapted the design of the apex-heads from the prows of ships.

The English magazine, *The Architect*, commenting on this, remarked: "The Northman, whose home was in his boat, wished to have his associations renewed by whatever was around him on land, and he probably considered that what served for its construction would be no less suitable for the building in which he attended the public worship of the Almighty. Nor was he in death divided from the floating home which was the dearest and safest for him. Sometimes the chieftain's corpse was set adrift in his boat; when he was buried on the shore it was placed above his remains. . ."

The Vikings were not an easy people to convert, and Christianity did not reach Norway until long after it reached other parts of Europe. The Northmen always did everything wholeheartedly, and when they did accept Christianity they embraced it with enthusiasm, and they lavished on the building of their churches the utmost skill and ability. The most characteristic of these date from the eleventh and twelfth centuries, and, naturally in a land thick with forests, the builders turned to wood as their medium. Stone was not favoured until after the Reformation.

In medieval days the shipwrights were the best carpenters and, therefore, as has been suggested, without question the task of building fell upon them. And because the stave churches were constructed of wood, they bear unmistakable imprints of the shipwright's craft. They had no transepts in their ships, nor did their churches have them, but the columns of the naves are mastlike, able to bear great strains, while the windows are small, probably because of the severity of the northern winter. How well they built is obvious from the fact that some of the churches have stood for eight hundred years, and although their lines are not absolutely true as when set up, this is not due to the weight of any part of the building, but to the natural wear and tear of time. Experts who have studied the buildings say that the carpenters did not use metal bands or braces to add to the strength of the jointing; they depended upon wooden pegs and "knees"; and the great age of the surviving stave churches is an impressive tribute to their craftsmanship.

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Henriksen and Steen

HITTERDAL STAVE CHURCH

At this point it is apposite to include a description of the style of architecture by a noted authority, Mr. T. B. Wilson: "The church generally consisted of a nave, a chancel, and a semi-circular apse, and was surrounded by a sort of cloister (*svalgang* or *omgang*), which was generally open at the east end, though occasionally it was completely closed in. The entrances to this cloister were often in the west end, opposite the doors of the church itself, or under one of the many

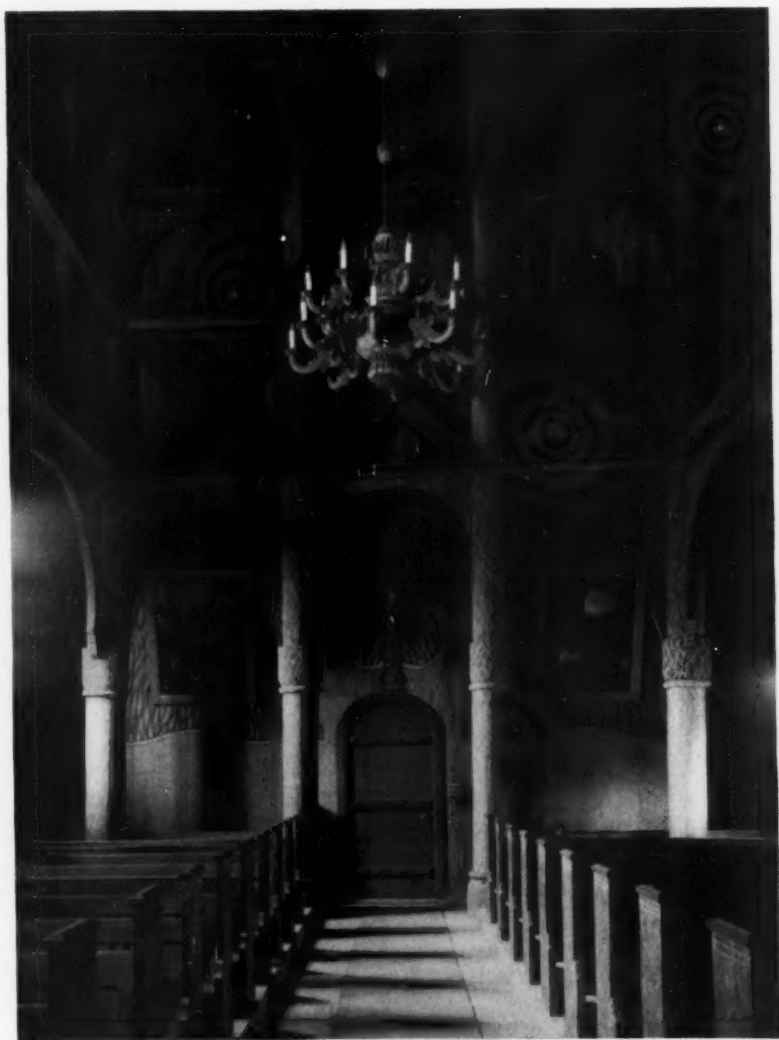
gables of the roof. From the cloister roof there sprang the wall of the south aisle, then came another roof, and then the nave wall, supporting the largest roof, which was crowned by a pointed tower often placed on a sort of cross roof. The chancel was similarly constructed, though the dimensions were smaller, while the apse did not generally exceed two storeys, and was semi-circular in shape, often finished off in a small round tower."

The finest and best-preserved of all these venerable buildings is the stave church of Borgund, a village situated in magnificent scenery in the grandest portion of the ravine-like cleft of the Laerdal. The belfry stands detached from it on the edge of a grassy slope, and the building is now the property of the Norwegian Society for the Preservation of Antiquities. Originally there were no windows, and even now the interior is very dark. The church is small, hardly larger than the room of an ordinary house, and it is not now used for divine service. A new and more commodious church has been built close by for the inhabitants of the valley, who come long distances to worship.

Borgund stave church illustrates in unrivalled fashion how the early Christian carvers let their imagination run riot, and their work has come down to us from the twelfth century as vividly lifelike as the day it was wrought, showing how marvellously skilful were their hands. The church dates from about the year 1138, and even now the *svalgang* is perfect. Over the side doorway there is a small cross, but everywhere else the tiers, with their pagoda-like, shingle-covered roofs, and the many gables, are ornamented with grotesque dragons' heads and lofty and elaborately-carved portals. On the massive door is carved this Runic inscription: "Thorir wrote these lines on the Fair of St. Olaf." This stave church was in use until as comparatively recently as 1870.

The origin of these unique structures has been the subject of much learned discussion. The word "stave" is, of course, associated with "wood," and there are wooden churches in Germany, Russia, Hungary, and Bohemia. But although these in some instances have a similar pagoda-like character, they do not seem to have had any influence on the Norwegian. Curiously enough, the only church outside Norway which seems to have been built on much the same lines is Greensted, in Essex, England, although the circumstances of its origin are conjectural. It may have been that Vikings settled in the neighborhood and built their own church there. Yet, as it dates from the tenth century, it is older than any stave church remaining in Norway.

Greensted church is, indeed, one of the oldest in England, and is certainly the earliest Anglo-Saxon wooden church. The nave walls



Henriksen and Steen

RINGEBU STAVE CHURCH INTERIOR

consist of split tree trunks placed side by side with the flat face inwards. They are believed to be oak, and are very hard, though worm-eaten and black. These are reputed to have formed part of a temporary shrine set up as a resting-place for the body of St. Edmund, King of the East Angles, who was martyred by the Danes. The wooden tower has been undergoing repair recently.

One theory as to the origin of the stave churches is that they have evolved from the Norwegian *hov*, or temple, of pagan times. They may

represent the transition stage from these wooden temples, and which may also have influenced the style and subject matter of some of the elaborate carvings of the doorways and other parts of the exteriors. Undoubtedly the early Christian carvers adopted many of the pagan emblems found on ships and temples, incorporating them in the buildings of their churches, just as heathen festivals were adapted for Christian celebration and given new names.

Professor Haakon Shetelig, of the Bergen Museum, a few years ago put forward a very interesting theory as to how the stave churches came by their unique architectural design. "Stave" also means mast, and originally the Norwegian church was merely a room without aisles and with its roof supported by columns or staves. As touched upon earlier, the frame was sturdily constructed by ships' carpenters who used knees in the support of joints and locked planks together just as they did in the building of a ship. In order to protect the outer walls from the weather, cloisters were hung from the rafters, their roof lines giving them the silhouette which, by accident, suggested the pagoda.

The narrow corridor or cloister, the *svalgang*, surrounded the entire building, with an abruptly pitched roof that protected not only the main walls of the church, but the churchgoers as they met before and after service to talk and doubtless to engage in a bit of Sunday trading. That part of the *svalgang* nearest the entrance was the weapon-house, where spears and axes and bows could be stored while the worshippers were within. As the roof of the weapon-house overtopped that of the entrance, so did a whole series of other roofs go slanting upwards at different levels but in harmonizing angles, roofs of ambulatory and choir, of apse and nave, and finally the spired one- or two- or three-tiered "roof-rider," not so much for a belfry—since the bells were often hung in a separate tower—as for an ornamental finish.

But although the primitive unit developed into this more complex form, the stave church, said Professor Shetelig, remained absolutely functional. Solidly built together by superb craftsmanship into an indivisible whole, it is nevertheless elastic, yielding to the wind so that on those which have a bell tower on the roof, the bells will ring in a storm but will rarely be blown down. This perfect craftsmanship and elasticity are the characteristics that have enabled the oldest stave churches to last the greater part of a thousand years.

The builders were very particular about the timber they employed, allowing it a long period to season, and this building material gave opportunity to the carvers to intertwine dragons and crosses and every sort of mythological and Christian symbol, creating those portals and

*Henriksen and Steen**LOM STAVE CHURCH*

altars, beam ends and pillar capitals, of intricate and lavish ingenuity, which are among Norway's most valued art treasures.

So wildly fantastic are many of the carvings on the doorways in particular, that the observer feels the builders endeavoured to incorporate everything which their imaginations could conceive. Some of the ideas probably derived from the East, for many Norsemen followed Sigurd I to the Crusades, with fifty-five ships, and in three years'



BORGUND STAVE CHURCH AND BELFRY

"wandering" after the old Norse fashion, fought the Moors in Spain, fraternized with the Normans in Sicily, and captured Sidon. It has been suggested that building the belfry apart was an idea brought home by Sigurd's men, as a reproduction of the campanile.

Included in the elaborate carved decorations are birds and beasts, dragons, trees, and figures laced and interwoven with scroll work, derived from Byzantine sources and debased with pagan admixtures. Sometimes stories from the northern sagas are intermixed with the schemes, and among them may be mentioned the story of Sigurd's travels, the roasting of Fafnir's heart, and the tree with the talking birds.

The oldest, and in some ways the most interesting, of the stave churches, is at Urnes. It was built during the last quarter of the eleventh century, during the reign of King Olaf Kyrre, who had many churches erected in the west of Norway. The church stands three hundred feet above the fjord, on the site of a pagan temple. On some of the pillars inside are Runic inscriptions, and according to some authorities the quaint carvings both inside and out show evidence of Irish influence in the design and craftsmanship. The church plate and ornaments on the

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altar are very ancient, and there are old-time vestments and an ancient rood.

Hitterdal (Heddal) stave church, referred to earlier, dates back to the thirteenth century. It is the largest in Norway, and the exterior is very fine, the *svalgang* being practically complete. One of the easiest churches to visit is Fantoft, about half an hour from Bergen. It was brought to its present site from Fortun on the Sogne fjord. The church has the principal characteristics of the architectural style, the massive pillars and Runic carvings, but it lacks the open ambulatory.

Others not to be omitted are those at Lom, although this is perhaps somewhat over-restored; Opdal and Torpe, both with finely-carved doors; Ringebu, named at the end of the thirteenth century, and which is partly modernized; and Hopperstad. This last is one of the largest of all and dates back to the fourteenth century. In addition to splendid carvings it has a *baldacchino* with medieval paintings, and the *svalgang* is in the main preserved.

Connected with Heidal stave church is a famous legend. It runs that, centuries ago a hunter was out shooting grouse, and as he shot an arrow it hit a tree, as he thought, with a strange sound. Out of curiosity he approached and was astonished to see an old church. Remembering the tradition about bringing the work of witchcraft into proximity with steel, he threw his tinder-box over it. Where it fell a farmhouse was built, and it is still known as Ildjernstad, the "Tinderbox Place."

Then he entered the church, for the door stood half-open. In the middle of the floor stood a large bell, and near the altar a great bear had taken up its winter quarters. The hunter slew it, and its skin was hung up in the church. He found there too, some pictures, a little brass shrine, four big bells and a small one. It was against one of these that the arrow had struck.

The shrine is still preserved, and it shows the murder of St. Thomas à Becket, the martyred Archbishop of Canterbury. It dates to within half a century of the event, and is thought by some to be the earliest representation of the manner of his death.

E. R. Yarham, British Author, lives in Cromer, Norfolk.

"Little Table, Spread Thyself!"

Laying the Danish Dinner Table Through Two Thousand Years

BY ELLEN ANDERSEN

IF WE INVITE A GUEST, we are solicitous for his pleasure and comfort all the time that he is under our roof," says the Frenchman Brillat-Savarin in his *Physiology of Taste*. And he stresses the point that not only should the food and drink be good, but served in the best possible way. Only these two combined produce the perfect repast. Now this is not Brillat-Savarin's discovery. It has always been the pride of the housewife to be able to offer a well laid table. We know it from the Old Norse sagas, where the dinner table is described in sonorous rhyme, and we know it from antiquity, when food and drink for the dead were placed in the grave in the belief that one continued to live after death.

There are certainly not many museums in the world which, like the National Museum in Copenhagen, can put on an exhibition of the setup of dinner tables over a stretch of two thousand years. Such an exhibition, held at Easter 1950, showed the eating habits of the Danes during that period. The tables were set up in rooms furnished according to the corresponding dates, and men and women in the costumes of the day gave added authenticity to each room. The photographs for this article were taken at this exhibition.

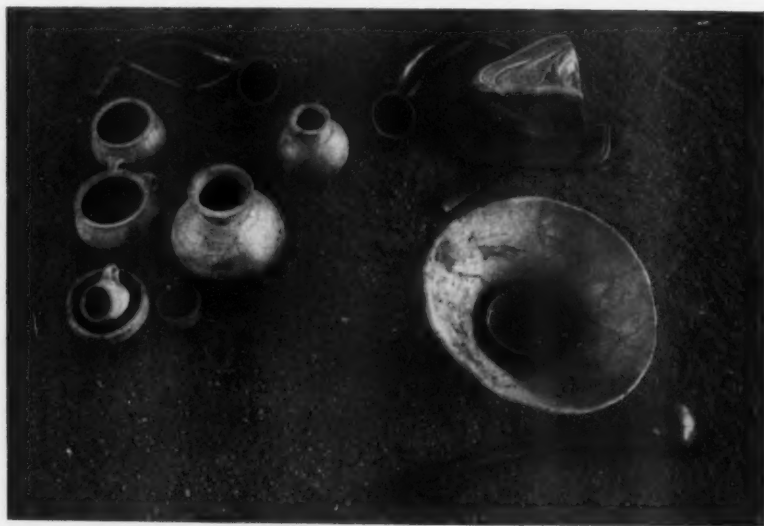


Table Service from the Iron Age, ca. 100 A.D.

The oldest Danish eating utensils are from the Roman Iron Age, about 100 A.D. In countless graves of that time we find the same things—bowls, drinking horns, spoons, knives—always placed in the same way around the dead. We do not know if they used eating tables at that time; probably one sat with the meat bowl in his lap, just as our farmers did even within our memory. And the drinking horn went from man to man. The food, of which remains have often been found, was meat, porridge, and bread, and the drink beer, mead, or wine. Besides the drinking horn they used a large drinking basin. In this basin there swam about a little bowl—a *skål*—which one drank out of. Hence comes the well-known Scandinavian exclamation *skål!* shouted when a toast is proposed. In heathen times of old the *thul-en* ("speaker") drank to the health of the gods, and even in the Christian Middle Ages it was a custom at festivals to toast God Almighty.

In viking times the people sat close together along the walls of the living room, with the open hearth blazing in the middle of the floor. They ate, slept, and carried on their various duties in the same room, so that it was necessary for the eating table, which had now come into use, to be removed immediately after mealtime. It consisted, therefore, of trestles with a top placed over them. After the meal the trestles were put to one side and the top hung up on the wall. The eating table came to be regarded as something sacred. The Romans had the habit of kissing the table to ward off evil spirits, and in the North a crime was



From the Middle Ages about 1400 A.D.

more severely punished if it was committed in the vicinity of the table than if it took place in another part of the room.

While the populations of the great civilized lands had long before accustomed themselves to highly refined ways of living, the Danes, as late as the Middle Ages, for the most part, kept up the traditions of ancient times.

The Danes spread their tables only on three sides; the fourth was free for serving. The simple table top was covered by two cloths. The lower cover was long and laid in rich folds, the upper cover was short and smooth. They did not know about napkins; but, before and after meals, the servants brought wash basins and towels around to the guests. That was quite necessary, as they all ate with their fingers and used the same dish. It was not, however, considered well-bred to blow one's nose into one's fingers and then stick them into the food dish. The equipment of the table was quite simple; the plates were flat slabs of wood, like the sandwich trays of our days; sometimes, after the meal, they dipped a slice of bread in honey or fruit juice and ate it as dessert. In the middle of the table stood the large bowl or pot in which the food was prepared. Knives and spoons the guests brought with them—forks were not yet known—and the drinking horn went from mouth to mouth without the least respect for hygiene.

In the fifteen and sixteen hundreds, classical culture at long last reached the North and created a funny mixture of rudeness and refinement. One thing that we must remember when we survey the habits of those times is the extraordinary amount of drunkenness. A contemporary author writes thus: "Intoxication is mankind's oldest practice. It is good for the body, and there is nothing better for the soul." When the guests began to be drunk, they were accustomed to use the dinner service as mortars; therefore, the articles to be thrown had to be of some solid material such as wood, tin, or silver. Glass for table use became common in the North at a much later period, because it was an altogether too fragile ware for inebriated diners to handle. For example, at the coronation of King Christian IV, thirty-five thousand pieces of glass were used, of which only a very few survived the festivities.

Many of the good old table customs of those days had their origin in the aristocratic nobility's eternal fear of poisoning. If one handed his guest a cop of wine, he had first to drink a gulp himself to prove that there was no poison in it. In aristocratic houses the cup-bearer stood back of his master's place and tasted the food and wine to insure his lord against poisoning. And, for the same reason, the victuals were

brought in covered and watched sharply during their long journey from the kitchen to the hall.

The table continued to be laid only on three sides, so that the magnificent covers could be appreciated. Underneath now lay a variegated silk or velvet spread, over it an embroidered piece, and on top a white linen tablecloth. This had to be changed several times during the meal, because, as long as one ate with his fingers, the guests were rude enough not only to wipe their fingers, but also their noses on the tablecloth. It was only after napkins and forks came into common use that one tablecloth would last the whole meal. Napkins were stacked up artistically in the form of swans or peacocks, but they were actually used only at festivals; the daily practice was to wash one's hands at a little fountain of copper, or something like it, that hung on the wall.

The fork is our most recent eating utensil. It first came into common use at the end of the seventeenth century. Christian IV was the first Dane to own such an instrument. Before that the knives had pointed blades, because they were used also as a sort of fork to spit pieces of meat and suchlike with. But the pointed knives were dangerous. When the guests had got too much to drink, it could happen that they poked each other in the ribs with the pointed knives. For that reason their use was forbidden by Louis XIV. Also, it is related that Cardinal Richelieu procured knives with rounded blades because he could not endure to see his chancellor poke his teeth with a pointed knife.

A dinner consisted of three courses, and each course had no end of dishes. The many plates were placed symmetrically around the *pièce de resistance*. Originally these show pieces were whole animals, but later they developed into artificial structures of painted wood, sugar, wax and the like. These show dishes became such a luxury that at last they were forbidden by the government. But, in spite of that, they have lived on into our days in the form of decorated wedding cakes and epergnes.

In the sixteen hundreds tea, coffee, and chocolate were introduced into Europe and brought about a complete change in the history of eating. At first these drinks were regarded only as medicine, especially as remedies for melancholy, but when later they came to be used for nutriment, they, little by little, pushed out the intoxicating drinks. It was no longer polite to drink oneself drunk: instead, aristocratic ladies and gentlemen sipped tea and coffee out of porcelain cups from the East Indies. The victory of tea and coffee over beer and wine made it possible to use the breakable porcelain for service, without risking all being smashed to pieces by intoxicated guests.

In rococo times a wholly new custom was introduced into society life—the small, intimate luncheons and dinners. Hitherto people had known only two kinds of meals, the plain daily meal and the great feast. But now they began to take pleasure in free and spontaneous meetings with a few good friends. To escape the host of listening and gossiping servants that made mealtime a plague, they invented the mechanical table, that could be sunk down through the floor and be hoisted up again fully laid.

At the end of the eighteenth century chairs were placed around all sides of the table, just as now, but one did not have a special dining room. One ate in the living room, usually, and in the hall for parties, and the table was, as in the middle ages, only loose planks on trestles. Therefore, the tablecloth had to be so large that it could hide the ugly table. And in order not to stumble over the long tips, one made knots in the corners of the cloth. Instead of show dishes, a mirror was now placed in the center of the table, surrounded by small porcelain figures. And around this center were placed saucers filled with candy in the shape of shells or leaves. Fresh flowers, on the other hand, were still an unknown luxury.

Wine glasses did not stand beside the covers but were placed in a bowl of water on the serving table. When a guest wanted a drink, the flunky fetched him the filled wineglass and afterwards took it back to the bowl. It was his duty to see that the guest always got the same glass to drink from.

Danish farmers, even up to our



*Merchant Party Service Rococo
about 1700 A.D.*



*Tea Service of a Court Lady
about 1740*



*Dinner Party at a Danish Manor
about 1790*

time, have kept many of the customs of antiquity and the Middle Ages. One can still, in many places in the country, find the family assembled around the common gruel dish, while the old grandmother or grandfather sits in the chimney corner with his bowl of food in his lap. The drinking mug stands in the middle of the table for everyone's use, and the plates are round wooden discs. At parties the guests bring their own "work tools"—knife, spoon, and fork.

Our last illustration shows a merchant's dining room from the middle of the last century. Dining rooms were known in France and England already in the first half of the seventeenth hundreds, but in Denmark it took them a long time to become popular. Together with dining rooms, special kinds of furniture for the dining room came into vogue. And since the table now no longer was a miserable plank, the tablecloth need not cover the whole table. Napkins are used now not only for parties, but every day, and each member of the family has his own napkin-ring. In the middle of the table stood a *plat-de-menage* for salt, pepper, vinegar and other things, instead of a show piece or a mirror. And to the cover belongs now the glass. It became too expensive to keep many servants, so that things that used to be served during the mealtime are put at each place ready for use. Therefore, the soup tureen is set at the housewife's place.

This sort of table-laying has remained unchanged straight down to our days. It was the two world wars that brought new habits in table manners, and that is due first and foremost to the present poor economic



Mealtime on a Danish Farm



*Family Dinner in a Copenhagen
Merchant's Home about 1850*

conditions. Only a few now have the means to employ servants, and the housewife must be spared all unnecessary work. On that account stainless steel has replaced polished silver. Faïence and pottery are replacing expensive porcelain, and embroidered doilies and paper napkins have come into use, instead of the white damask which requires constant washing. And finally the eating room in most young folks' homes has disappeared in favor of an eating corner in the living room or the kitchen. In this respect, indeed, we have returned to the simple ways of life in antiquity and the Middle Ages.

Mrs. Ellen Andersen is curator of costumes in the National Museum in Copenhagen, who arranged the recent exhibition of dining tables.

The Dream of Peace

BY RICHARD BECK

DEEP in the heart of man in every clime
The heaven-born Dream of Peace enfeathered lies.
Release, O Christmas Day, that thought sublime
And, star-like, make it shine before our eyes,
Guiding our path through storm and wintry ways
Into the morning light of better days.

Our faith in that great dream make true and strong,
O holy Birthday of the Prince of Peace,
That war-torn souls may hear the blessed song
Of the new world where strife and hatred cease.
Release, O Christmas Day, that thought sublime
Deep in the heart of man in every clime.



SOUGHT CHRISTMAS

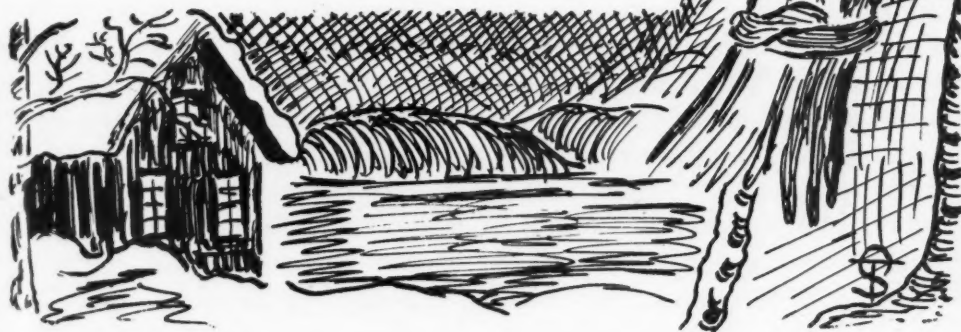
BY HARRY MARTINSON

*Translated from the Swedish by
Llewellyn Jones*

A memoried snow-Christmas of long ago
I dreamed of on a night of falling stars.
The iron seed of the sleighbells' silver jingle
Flung grain-small notes through the wood.
Fresh winds I heard in yellow sheaves astir.
All, I softly touched,
By dream-art coaxing forth
The submerged associations.
High above the armor of the ice-packs
A glow of light I caught.

The night wore on and I marked
My self-delusion.
The candles shortened
And falling stars streaked the firmament
outside.

The frost stood a whining beggar.
Lone, many a one, forsaken, froze
In spite of the wood being wolf-free.
That was the Christmas night.



The Uelands

BY BRENDA UELAND

Mr. Henry Goddard Leach has asked me to write an article "about the Uelands, about your father and his father, who is still remembered as a big man in Gamle Norge, and paragraphs about your author-sister, Mrs. Taylor, your college-president sister, your New Jersey brother, your three Minneapolis brothers, and the author of ME, yourself. My idea is that the Uelands are one of Norway's great contributions to America."

Well, that is a staggering statement and so now I attempt it, overriding a feeling of uneasy modesty and queasy doubt.

ABOUT OLE GABRIEL UELAND it has been said that "no man had as great influence on the legislation of Norway in a liberal direction." His family were poor farmers in the wild mountains of Heskestad, but there may have been something a little special about them, for of his grandfather people said: "Just look at John Osmundson! He always wants to do something extra. He even teaches his *daughters* to read."

Ole Gabriel Ueland was born October 28, 1799, in Lunde parish near Flekkefjord. The Napoleonic wars had so debased the currency that his family could not afford even a moderate education for him. "From my mother," he said, "I learned to read, and after that I taught myself."

At seventeen he was a school teacher at a salary of five and a half dollars a year, and when he was twenty-six he married Martha Osmundsdatter who inherited her father's farm, Ueland. Whenever his neighbors' attention was drawn to him for any ability, he would jokingly quote a Roman saying, "Among the blind, the one-eyed is king." In his parish they were to build a church. "I was considered the wise one," he said. "I could write and handle figures and was both *potte og pande* ("jack-of-all-trades"). The preacher wanted me to lead the singing in the church (*Klokke*), and my old father-in-law and I thought this was a great step upward."

The year 1833 was an important one in the history of Norway. Ole Gabriel Ueland was elected to the Storting from Stavanger county

and was continuously re-elected as long as he lived, for thirty-seven years. After the separation of Norway from Denmark, in 1814, the law-making power was in the hands of those in high official positions, but gradually the people discovered that they too had power under the new constitution. More and more they elected farmers to the Storting. Ole Gabriel Ueland became their leader.



Ole Gabriel Ueland

In Norway, unlike England, Denmark, Sweden, and other countries, there was no great nobility with large estates who assumed that they inherited the right to rule the country. (In fact it is the pride and honor of Norway that she has had an independent land-owning farmer class for more centuries than any other country.) But Norway inherited from the union with Denmark a class of men who occupied nearly all the official positions. They were the bureaucrats, the preachers, military, judges, police and the not-to-be-forgotten tax

collectors. Such men, with their conceit of power, governed the country. It was dangerous to be at odds with them.

Such was the situation when Ueland appeared. It took half a century, from 1833 to 1884, to win the political emancipation of the common people, and the leading spirits in the struggle were Ueland and another farmer member of the Storting, Søren Jaabek. And so Ole Gabriel Ueland is sometimes called "the Father of Norwegian democracy."

When he spoke in the Storting his most passionate and voluble opponents listened in respectful silence. He was the champion around



My Father

whom the great battles raged. And a remarkable thing about him was his patience under opposition and abuse. He listened to his enemies with the gentlest, gravest seriousness and never sought to take unfair advantage of them. He was quite without personal ambition. The purpose of his life was the general advancement and elevation of the people of Norway. Confidence in him was unbounded, and his name became a household word in every nook and cranny of the country.

As for his appearance, he was of middle height, broad-shouldered and spare, strong and lively, with gray intelligent eyes slanting a little above ruddy cheekbones. He had a rather big nose—"the Ueland nose," my brothers, who all have it, call it ruefully. My cousin, Ingri D'Aulaire of Wilton, Connecticut, the writer and illustrator of children's books, who is also Ole Gabriel's grand-daughter, tells me that the Uelands in Norway are marked by steel-gray eyes that slant upward a little bit and a physical energy that is almost frightening, and, I am sorry to say, a tendency to be quite bossy.

When Ole Gabriel died in 1870, my father was eighteen. Everything abruptly changed for him. "No amusement of any kind, only brooding on how to get away to America. It was like a desperate case of homesickness reversed." At last, on his solemn promise to be back within five years, his mother consented. She stocked him with new clothes, a feather quilt and a little money, in addition to the ninety-three dollars inherited from his father. "I started out as well equipped as the boy in the tale who left his home for adventures with 'horse, hound, and a hundred dollars.'"

There is a small framed photograph of Father in our upstairs hall as a "newcomer" boy. He wears a dark jacket and a loose bow tie under his defiant and jaunty chin, and his personality shows up well in this photograph, so resilient, truculent, and dauntless. Such style, such swing! Such a vigorous brain and spirit! Compact as a thunderbolt! He would work with such a rush at any problem that presented itself, boldly and fiercely, but with such good nature, without one whit of anger or ill will. Only the gods can contend that way.

Father, young and alone in Minnesota, worked as a farm-hand and day-laborer. At night he studied law. In six years, when he was twenty-four, he was admitted to the bar. He could write this letter to his mother, whom he never saw again:

"You see . . . that I have successfully passed the examination. Only five passed, four Americans and I. I think I got through the best of the five. And so I have reached that far. . . ."

A little later he was taken into a young people's society of an American church, where he became acquainted with a girl of fifteen. "The prettiest there and probably in the whole city." Ten years later they were married.

In 1890 my father bought four acres on the south shore of Lake Calhoun in Minneapolis. But it was all in the wild country then, with tamarack forests and marshes to the west. We went to bed with candlelight, and to drive downtown in the carriage was a long peregrination



Fridtjof Nansen and Judge Ueland in Minneapolis

and solemn adventure. He built the large square house—all glass and light and grace and workmanship and noble proportions—that I live in now, and my three Minneapolis brothers—Sigurd, Rolf, and Arnulf—have built houses and gardens where the cow-pasture used to be. “The Ueland Settlement” Father used to call it.

There were seven children, and since Mr. Leach regards “the Uelands as a contribution of Norway to America” (not only ourselves, of course, but the score of handsome farmer-Uelands in North Dakota and the innumerable Uelands now in America unbeknownst to me) I will give a brief description of each of us.

Anne Ueland went to Wells College and delighted her parents by having an article published in *The Atlantic Monthly*. She married Dr. Kenneth Taylor and went abroad in 1914, staying in Paris all through World War I as a correspondent for an American newspaper. She now lives in New York on Sutton Square, three doors from the East River. Anne writes sporadically short-stories or a novel. An impassioned and erudite musician, she likes John Donne, France, water, sky, Christian mysticism, and to her Beauty (as well as Goodness and Truth) is the Lord.

Elsa Ueland graduated from the University of Minnesota, a tall blue-eyed young feminist knowing all about Ibsen and *The Doll's House* even then. She worked in a New York Settlement House, but her life work has been public education, and her ardent love the happiness of the ordinary underprivileged children of the world. In her twenties she was offered the presidency of Carson College, in Flourtown, Pennsylvania, a school for orphan girls comparable to the

famous Girard School for boys in Philadelphia. She did away with the "asylum" aspect of the school. The children now all live in small happy families. The school's wonderful playgrounds, equipment, classes, festivals, were shared by the whole community. She likes geology, agriculture, trees, topographical maps, gardens, and at fifty learned to play an ecstatic violin in a chamber music quartet.

Myself, I graduated from Barnard, became staff writer on a New York magazine and a free lance writer, then a newspaper columnist. In July 1945 I went to Norway to the Quisling trial as a correspondent for the Minneapolis *Times* and on a mission-of-one to find the Norwegian relatives of fifteen hundred Norwegian-Americans in Minneapolis. I was given the St. Olaf Medal by King Haakon. I am now working on a biography of my mother, having been granted a fellowship to do so by the University of Minnesota and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Sigurd Ueland went to the University of Minnesota and to Harvard Law School. He worked in his father's law office. Now he is vice-president and General Counsel for the Federal Reserve Bank in Minneapolis. People say he "is the most Norwegian of the Ueland children," i.e. the most blond, laconic, imperturbably independent in his thinking and unable to understand the mass foolishness of this modern world, both so nervous and so self-indulgent at the same time. He likes to work on his farm on the St. Croix River, to cut down dead trees (in such a way that no live ones will be hurt), to play tennis with his children, and to read 19th century classics like Matthew Arnold.

Arnulf Ueland went to the University of Minnesota. He was first lieutenant of artillery in World War I. He worked in the Midland National Bank (the Scandinavian National Bank aforesaid). He is now its president, a handsome, dark-eyed, ruddy, humorous, and tranquil-acting man. He is said to be "very imaginative for a banker." He is adored by his family, and there is a legend that never in his life has he come home cross. He likes tennis, skiing, and fishing trips into the primeval forests of Canada. He has great talent for working with all kinds of people, that is to say, with a curious combination of dignity and ineffable friendliness.

Rolf Ueland went to the University of Minnesota and Harvard Law School. He is an amateur painter, and there is a meticulously drawn and charming portrait of his wife over his mantelpiece. He plays the violin twice a week in chamber music quartets. He has made three violins and unwillingly admits (a Norwegian, his highest compliment is "not bad") that the last one he likes even better than his

expensive 18th century French violin. He looks like a younger King Haakon and has the same self-derogatory manner of shrugging his shoulders, laughing, and telling just how he does not deserve credit for this or that, or indeed, for anything you might want to say that is rather nice about him.

Torvald Ueland, the youngest and largest of the Uelands, bought a farm near Red Bank, New Jersey. He is now a flour broker with offices on West Street, New York. He has three children, thirty Guernsey cows, two horses, two dogs, many cats, a tennis court, a tractor. He is a slow-moving man, speaking lazily always through a wide smile, yet he has apparently in a slow-motion way "the furious Ueland energy." He will plant a few thousand small trees on a weekend. I have known him to be mowing the lawn in the rain at ten o'clock on a Sunday night. He likes to get up at 6 o'clock on Sunday morning and bake wonderful bread. It is said that Ole Gabriel Ueland was remarkable in that he had "so many ideas." The chief chemist of a big milling company in Minneapolis said to me, when I was introduced: "There is a man in New York with your name, who writes letters that are just remarkable for the good ideas in all of them." It was Torvald.

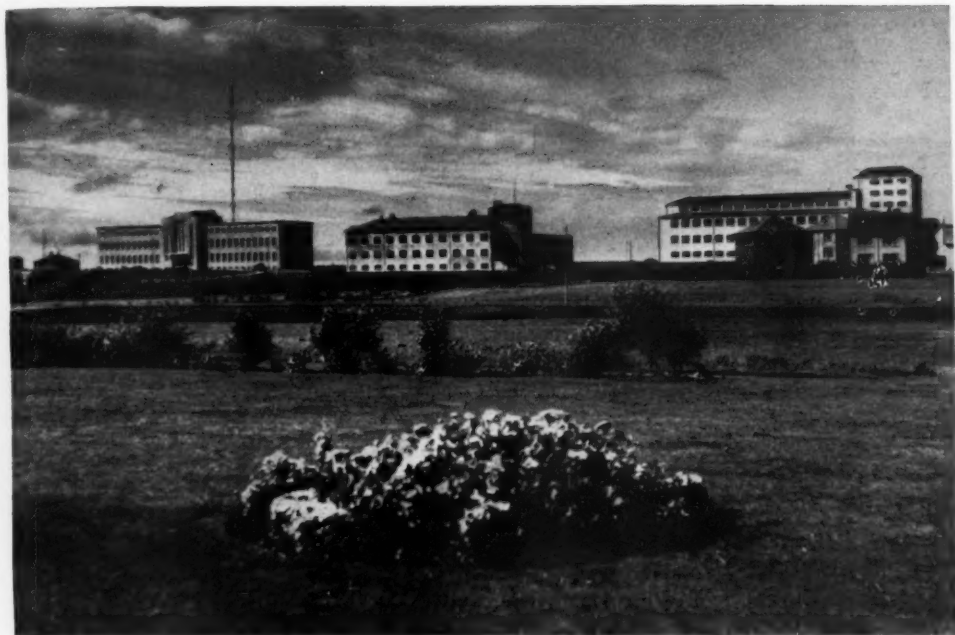
Brenda Ueland is author of the popular autobiography ME and a lot of other good acts and good writing.

On Reading Kristin Lavransdatter

BY SJANNA SOLUM

THOUGH solitary, I am not alone
 Within the measured confines of this room:
 I am a modern host who must condone,
 Or not condone, the myriad forms that loom
 Upon my privacy. In every nook
 And corner of this most material space
 There peers, intangible, a vivid face
 Which has escaped the covers of a book.

Now in this strange, amazing interlude
 I find my leisure-hours filled with zest:
 In antique costume, other manners, dressed,
 With boldness they usurp my solitude.
 Here I am crowned with pleasure's diadem
 That they should live with me—and I with them!



New Buildings

The University of Iceland

BY ALEXANDER JÓHANNESSON

THE foundation of the University of Iceland in 1911 was an important factor in Iceland's struggle for freedom and independence. In the latter part of the nineteenth century Parliament (Althing) had repeatedly demanded that a University be founded and had passed a bill to that effect, which was repealed by the Danish Government. Finally a bill was passed and signed by the King in 1909, and the University was inaugurated June 17, 1911. This date was the centenary of the birth of Jón Sigurdsson, Iceland's great national leader of the 19th century, who was a sharp-sighted leader in the nation's struggle for independence and at the same time an eminent scholar, thoroughly versed in the history of the nation and

her claims for justice. Moreover, he had first voiced the need for founding a University. The new University was established by merging into one the three existing colleges: the theological seminary (founded 1847), the medical college (1876), and the school of law (1908). A fourth faculty was added, that of Philosophy, to further the knowledge of Icelandic philosophy, literature, language, and history. The first president of the University, the well-known scholar Björn M. Olsen, in his inauguration speech, stressed the main purpose of every university, that is, to combine instruction and research. The people realized that the foundation of a university could be a great encouragement to the national life and not least to the struggle



Main Entrance

for regaining complete freedom which would enable the nation to take her place among other civilized nations.

During its first decades the University was housed in the Parliament building. Year by year the number of students increased; new chairs were added, but any further extension was hindered by lack of accommodations. In 1940 the University moved into a new building, and since then a number of improvements have been made. The most important ones will be mentioned here. New faculties have been added: dentistry was added to the curriculum of the medical faculty, a Faculty of Economics and a Faculty of Engineering were established, the latter with a 3-year course, which in the Scandinavian countries corresponds to the first part of the training for a degree in civil engineering. Graduates of this course must then proceed to some Scandinavian School of Engineering for additional two-years' study to obtain their final degrees. The teaching staff has gradually increased, and at present the number of professors and assistant pro-

fessors is 26, and counting part-time lecturers the number is 55. Special emphasis has been laid on increasing the instruction in Icelandic literature, language, and history (there are now seven teachers) with a view to making this department the main center of Icelandic studies. In the Faculty of Philosophy there are also teachers in all the Scandinavian languages and in English, French, German, Latin, and Greek. At the initiative of this faculty the University has undertaken to have compiled a scientific dictionary of the Icelandic language from 1540 to the present day. The so-called Arni Magnússon committee in Copenhagen is having a new dictionary of Old Icelandic compiled, covering the period up to 1540. We have hopes that it will be possible to combine these two dictionaries in one work. This dictionary will prove very important for research concerning the history and culture of all Germanic nations, because Icelandic has preserved more words from the Indo-Germanic period than any other language with the single exception of Ancient Greek.

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Of the other faculties the Faculty of Medicine has seen the greatest developments. Under its auspices a separate bacteriological-pathological laboratory has been established under the direction of Professor Dungal, and a Veterinary Research Institute has recently been constructed in the vicinity of Reykjavík. Its director is Dr. Björn Sigurdsson. Half the cost of construction was donated by the Rockefeller Foundation, the remaining half being defrayed by the State. Inside the University building there are three laboratories: in anatomy and physiology (director: Prof. Jon Steffensen), in pharmacology (dir.: Dr. Kristinn Stefansson), and in hygienics (dir.: Prof. Julius Sigurjónsson).

The University has also aimed at supporting research for promoting the nation's industries and initiated the establishment of a Research Institute for that purpose. It is divided into three departments: industrial, agricultural, and the fisheries department. In this institute, which was built on the University grounds, systematic research is carried out by twenty young scientists who have obtained their degrees in foreign countries, many of them in U.S.A. A separate building for research in connection with the fishing industry is now under construction, because fishing is the main industry of Iceland and the main export is fish. The agricultural department of the Institute has branches in various parts of the country, where there is carried out soil research, experiments to improve the breed of cattle, sheep, and plants and various other experiments in this field.

During the last two decades two students' hostels have been built on the University grounds, accommodating a little



Library

more than a hundred students, who can also have full board in one of the hostels. They enjoy various privileges, such as special grants. A few rooms are reserved for foreign students studying at the University, among them two rooms for American students, one for an American of Icelandic parentage and the other for a student from the United States. There are also rooms for students from Denmark and the Faroe Islands, Norway, Sweden, Finland, England, France, and Germany. There are various legacies to be used for the benefit of the students, such as the legacy recently established by Mr. Steingrímur Arason (88,000 Kr.



Chapel

or \$5400), to aid student exchange between Iceland and U.S.A. A Gymnasium has also recently been erected on the University grounds. Gymnastics and swimming are compulsory for the first two years, and after that students are expected to continue this training while they are at the University.

The plans for the whole of the University grounds have now been completed, and the grounds will have attained their final form in one or two years' time. Besides the buildings already mentioned—the University, the Research Institute, the two hostels and the Gymnasium—there is on the outskirts of the campus the recently completed building of the National Museum of Iceland, which will be opened in about a year. This Museum will be in connection with the University, as students studying Icelandic history will have an excellent opportunity to study the history of the nation as it appears in antiquities found buried in the earth, both from the pagan period and from more recent times, such as church objects from the Middle Ages, agricultural tools, silver and gold ornaments, and specimens of the oldest book-making. Furthermore plans are in preparation to erect on the University grounds a building for the Museum of Natural History, which will contain everything pertaining to the nature of Iceland, flora, fauna, and specimens of rocks and stones. In this building will be several workrooms for the use of scientists; some will be available to foreign scientists who may wish to stay in Iceland for short periods doing research work concerning the country's zoology, botany or geology. It is also intended to build a Union House for the students with common rooms for various activities, such as meetings of the student societies and clubs, dances, plays, etc. They will also be able to have their meals there. The erection of this building will probably have to wait for several years.

Some people may be wondering how a small community, counting only 140,000 members, has been able to erect and support a university and is planning still more buildings in connection with it. Parliament voted a grant of money to build a house for the National Museum to commemorate the foundation of the republic, which took place on June 17, 1944 at Thingvellir, the time-honored place where Parliament (Althing) met from 930 to 1798. All the other buildings mentioned above the University itself has built, mostly with its own money, which it has acquired partly by donations from various benefactors but mostly with the profits from two enterprises run by the University, a lottery and a cinema. In 1934 the University obtained permission to run a national lottery, the proceeds of which were to be devoted to the construction of University buildings. The annual profit is around 400,000 kr. (\$24,550). In 1941 the University Cinema was opened. It enjoys various privileges such as exemption from entertainment tax and other public taxes. The annual profit varies from 300,000 to 400,000 kr. (\$18,400-\$24,600). Besides this, the University has several funds, 30 to 40 in number, one of them being Sáttmálasjóður ("The Union Fund") which was established in 1918, when a treaty was concluded between Denmark and Iceland, by which Denmark recognized Iceland as an independent and sovereign state. This fund was established with 1 million kr. (then \$200,000.00), part of a sum which Denmark owed to Iceland. All the profit from the University Cinema runs to this fund, which in turn, every year, grants an amount of ca. 200,000 kr. (\$12,300) to cover various needs of the University, such as publication of learned works and text-books and scholarships for the University's graduates wishing to go abroad for further study. The University is a State institution under the Ministry of Education.

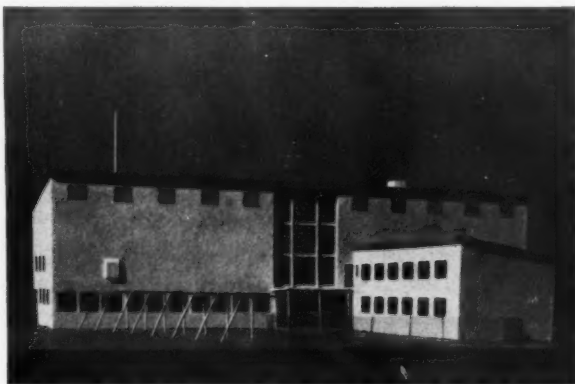
*As Light as Light*

There are no tuition fees. Its expenses are defrayed by the Treasury, which grants 2 million kr. (ca. \$120,000) a year to the University and a similar amount to the Research Institute.

The academic year is counted from the 15th of September to the 15th of June. Holidays are two to three weeks at Christmas and one week at Easter. There are two terms in the session, examinations being held in January, but mostly in May and June. The final degrees conferred by the University are *kandidat* ("candidate"), *candidatus theologiae*, *candidatus medicinae et chirurgiae*, *candidatus juris*, *candidatus oecologiae*, *candidatus magisterii* (Icel. lit., lang., history), and in the Faculty of Philosophy there is also *meistara-próf* (*magister artium*) for those who have obtained the degree of *cand. mag.* and intend going in for a scientific career. In the Faculty of Philosophy there is also a B.A. degree (*baccalaureus artium*) to be obtained by examinations in various languages and philosophy.

There is no fixed time for the duration of courses, but the average time for theology is assumed to be four years, for medicine seven years, for law five years, for economics four years, and for engineering three years. The duration of courses for B.A. is three years. For the degree of *candidatus magisterii* four and a half to five years are required, and for that of *magister artium* one and a half to two years more.

The number of students has increased from 45 in 1911, when the University was founded, to ca. 600 at the present time. During the last decades a number of foreign students have studied Icelandic at the University, and recently we have received several foreign medical students. The affairs of the students are conducted by the Student Council, a body of nine students elected annually, in recent years on political lines. There are various political clubs, issuing publications at irregular intervals, a non-political debating club among the students of law, an athletic club, and others. The students hold their own dances and celebrations, the most important one being held December 1 each year, when they celebrate the anniversary of the treaty of 1918 between Denmark and Iceland, whereby the Danes recognized the sovereignty of Iceland—which date the

*Dormitory*

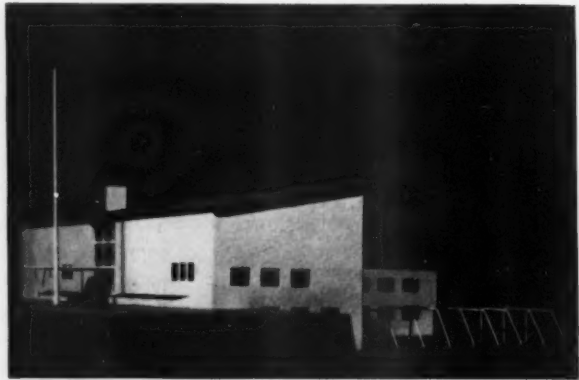
students have appropriated as their festival day.

Every year a number of public lectures are given at the University, both by professors of the University and visiting scholars from other countries, on various subjects concerning the lecturer's particular branch of study. Recently the University has started publishing annually six to eight of these lectures in one volume, the fifth one being due to appear this year.

The number of books published by the University is fairly high compared to its size. Its publications are mostly textbooks and learned works. A comprehensive account of these publications may be had from a catalog published by the University every fifth year: "Bibliography of Publications by University Teachers."

The University has its own library of ca. 60,000 volumes, of which ca. 20,000 volumes were donated by Dr. Benedikt S. Thorarinsson, comprising an almost complete collection of everything printed in Iceland in the 19th and 20th centuries up to his death in the 1930's. The library has also received several smaller donations from various benefactors. As the National Library possesses ca. 180,000 volumes, the University library only endeavours to acquire good reference books in all subjects taught at the University.

In the festival hall of the University



Refectory

concerts are given by well known artists every winter for teachers and students and later repeated for the public. The University festival is held annually in the latter part of October (first day of winter) and on this occasion a ceremony is held in the festival hall where freshmen receive their academical certificates, after which a lecture is given by one of the professors. From time to time the University holds commemoration ceremonies in memory of men important in the history of the nation, for instance, the seventh centenary of the death of Snorri Sturluson (1241-1941), the famous scholar and author of the "Prose Edda" and the "Heimskringla."

From this short survey it can be seen that the University of Iceland sets its aims high and is fully aware of its duties concerning the development and culture of the nation.

Alexander Jóhannesson, President of the University of Iceland, is an international philologist who has lectured in many countries. He has advanced a new theory of the origin of languages and is now completing an etymological dictionary of Icelandic. In 1950 he visited American universities as guest of the U.S. Department of State.

The Sleepers

A SHORT STORY

BY JOHANNES V. JENSEN

Translated from the Danish by L. S. Hanson

THE YOUNG MEN of Keldby were out throwing pots on peoples' doors, as the age-old custom is on New Year's Eve. They had already been caught and invited in for a drink at several of the houses, and it is possible that they were a bit fuddled when some one proposed that they should pay a visit to the Hill Farm.

They had an old account to settle with the people of the farm on the other side of the lake. The year before they had been there on their New Year's round of revelry and had been shamefully treated. To be sure, it was rather a rude joke they had played. As the farm people in their most peaceful holiday mood were supping on sweet porridge, the front door was suddenly thrown open, and a huge dye-pot full of fine ashes flew into the room, landing in the center of the table, where it broke and hurled its contents to the most distant corners. At first the Hill Farm people were almost out of their senses with coughing and rage, groping about in the cloud of dust, but they soon found the door, and you may well imagine that they did not invite the young men in to eat and drink—no, they armed themselves with long whips and heavy clubs and chased the intruders, who of course had rushed away as soon as they had thrown the dye-pot. The farm people were swifter than one would have expected. They overtook the villagers down near the lake, and pressed them so hard that they had to wade out into the water. All the villagers had donned leather boots or high wooden shoes, having foreseen all kinds of rough-

house, while the Hill Farm people were wearing socks and low wooden shoes and therefore could not pursue the men into the lake. But it was then that they simply followed their nature and *took their time*, waiting on the shore two hours or more and making themselves quite comfortable there. It was a bitterly cold night, almost freezing, and the boys in the lake began to feel the cold badly, with the water reaching far up on their legs.

To keep warm and have a little fun, the Hill Farm men began to stir and splash the water with their whips and cudgels, and as there was a land breeze, the water splashed on the young men and made them still more uncomfortable. This angered them, and they began to protest. But instead of taking pity on them, the farm people began to throw big stones and clods of dirt as far as possible out into the water, and soon the poor villagers were drenched to the skin and complaining bitterly. The Hill folk were in no hurry and just stayed where they were. Finally the boys had to give in and ask for peace, and during the following holidays they were the laughing-stock of everyone. Now they wanted to take revenge; and in their exuberant mood they conceived an infamous plan which all helped carry out, chuckling and bent almost double with glee.

In order to understand the joke, it is necessary to know a little more about the Hill Farm and its inhabitants. It was a very old farm, situated north of Keldby Lake, quite apart from other houses. It had always been isolated, for the old village, which now had disappeared ex-

cept for a few enclosures and ridges with briar bushes and a thicket of old crippled plum trees, had been situated farther west. The present Keldby east of the lake is a quite modern village, sprung up after the building of the highway, within the memory of people now living. The Hill Farm people would not leave the home of their ancestors but stayed in the old farmhouse and carried its old customs into a time that neither knew nor understood them. They had always lived alone, and were not tempted by the bustle on the new highway any more than by the many wild ideas of modern Keldby. The farmer was very wealthy.

The sleepiness and indescribable slowness of the Hill Farm people had become proverbial. They slept as often as they had a chance. Since there were many sons and daughters, they kept no servants and could therefore always act as though they were living in a world of their own. When they *had* to work, they did so yawningly and half asleep. They always had down or bed-straw ticking in their hair or under their caps. They were always shivering as if their sleepiness made them chilly, even if just coming out of their last snooze. They crawled along the ground, weary and heavy with slumber. Even if one came upon them standing in a field, they would begin to blink their tiny eyes and scratch their arms when spoken to, as if they were just awaking and had to get their bearings. When at the table, their eyelids would droop heavily, and probably it seemed to them like a long bad dream or a nightmare to plough or do the necessary work during the day. In summer if they had thrown themselves down somewhere in the sun to be baked through in their sleep, one was apt to find the whole house silent as the grave. The farmer might be stretched out full length near the wall of the house, one son in the corner by the grindstone, another in an empty wagon, a third across the door sill of the barn as if

unable to take another step. There they would be sleeping, while the wife and the daughters would be lying in the house with clusters of flies crawling over their eyelids. It was said that their clothes faded only on one side during the summer, because they slept on the other side. Gradually their very appearance changed from never being awake: big growths, like the claws of a lobster, developed behind the ears of the farmer himself during his sleep. The wife had a big carbuncle on one cheek—naturally the fat was wandering around their bodies and settling wherever it pleased, while they were lost in slumber. All the sons were noticeably hairy in places where nobody else grows any hair—in their foreheads and their ears—but this is supposed to mean wealth—that is, if it does not come from lying asleep and being overrun with weeds like a neglected field. It was a strange sight to see the big strong men move around as when they were harnessing the horses. It might take them most of an hour. When at last it was done they sometimes had forgotten why, so would undo their work and go and take another nap. During a thunderstorm they might be found standing sound asleep, leaning their chins on the handle of a spade. They had nests in the fields where they would seek shelter if overcome by fatigue during the day.

The buildings and equipment of the Hill Farm were just as old-fashioned as the people themselves were heavy and sluggish. The houses were of a prehistoric type with mud walls and eaves reaching almost to the ground. The farming was carried on with wooden plows and other such implements that had long since gone out of use everywhere else. Lately, however, the people had bought a decent scythe instead of the sickle which they had at last found too great a strain on their stiff bodies. But it was pathetic to see how they handled their new tool.

The live stock was like everything else

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on the place, obsolete and unhealthy: tiny shaggy cattle yielding very little milk, and poor miserable nags with vives and all imaginable blemishes on their legs. But the Hill Farm people thought that everything was all right, and their fare was in keeping with the rest. They did not demand much. In the big kettle which was hanging on a hook in the open chimney there was rarely anything but gray rye-flour porridge—that eternal dish which seems to have been the diet of our ancestors through centuries of poverty and bondage. At the Hill Farm the porridge was so hard and stiff that the housewife flung it against the wall, where it stuck and the men went and took bites of it. At least, that is what was told. Whoever has seen the old-fashioned rye-flour porridge will understand why the people were sleepy and not looking forward to the morrow.

The oldest son had served in the army, but the way he had fared was quite a story. He wept salt tears when they pulled off his shirt to examine him at the recruiting office, and he remained inconsolable from the day he was conscripted until he was rejected for incurable absence of mind and weeping. Now the others went around trembling, in fear of their turn that was to come. The only time the sons from the Hill Farm had had the laugh on their side was when they had stood patiently waiting on the shore while the villagers nearly froze to death in the lake. But now this was going to be paid back with interest.

When the boys had reached the other side of the lake, they saw that there were candles still lit in the Hill Farm. It was therefore too early to begin operations. They happened to pass a small lonely house, belonging to an old widow named Maren, and in order to kill time they gave her a concert with a humming-top and a split quill. The old woman was overjoyed because the young people still remembered her, and she came out to

thank them and wish them a Happy New Year. They would simply *have* to step inside. At least her little room was cozy and warm. The clasped Bible was lying on the table with her spectacles on top.

"But my dear boys, I have nothing to treat you to," exclaimed Maren regretfully after having urged them in. "That is a burning shame! I never thought anybody was going to come and play New Year's tricks on a lonely old body like me."

"Don't you mind that," said the leader. "We have a bottle of gin along. But, do you happen to have a bit of yeast in the house?"

"Yeast! You aren't going to eat yeast with your gin, are you?"

"No, no, Maren. But we need some yeast, real soft if you have it, to paste with."

"Boys!" cried Maren exultantly. "Now I know that you are up to some devilish trick, God bless you! You shall have yeast if I can find some. But what are you going to paste with it, and who's the joke going to be on?"

The boys would not tell that. They put on haughty and mysterious airs. Old Maren did find some yeast in a cup, quite a good deal, but it was dry and cracked.

"I can pour some water on it and heat it," she suggested eagerly. They approved heartily, and while the yeast was soaking in the oven, they took a drop from the flask and stuffed their pipes.

"I wonder if the store is open as late as this," said the leader, sitting in deep thought.

"Why no," declared Maren. "It closed long ago."

The young man pondered on this and seemed perplexed.

"We need some paper. You haven't any paper, Maren, have you?"

"How much do you want? Oh you awful, awful boys! I think I can help you out."

"We need much, but not to write on."

"Here is all I have," cried the delighted Maren and pulled a pile of papers out of a drawer. There were old wrappings from matchboxes, paper bags carefully opened and smoothed, leaves from school copy-books. Maren sacrificed all, beaming with sympathy for the pranks in which they denied her part. The paper was examined and found serviceable, also it was thought to be sufficient. But it was deemed best to paste the pieces together in large sheets, and when at last the yeast was ready this was executed with great thoroughness.

Maren stood there looking at them, greatly interested, and when she saw the required size of the sheets, she suddenly knew what it was all about. She did not say a word—she knew too well how to appreciate a joke—but she collapsed with silent joy, she giggled, and her toothless gums clacked, so great was her delight.

Now the villagers had finished, and one of them who had been sent to see if the lights in the Hill Farm had been put out returned, silent and nodding. Old Maren as silently followed them to the door, where they thanked her and bade her a mysterious goodnight. When they had gone a short distance, they heard the lonely old woman shriek with rapture while closing her door.

The Hill Farm was quiet and dark when the young men arrived. The folks inside were sleeping like marmots; nothing less than a gun-shot would awake them. Still the boys advanced with the greatest precaution and took all the time necessary. They spent a full hour on their foul work, which consisted in pasting all the windows of the dwelling-house over with paper. The windows in the old one-story building were not more numerous or bigger than the boys could manage. There were only two in front and two or three small ones toward the cabbage garden. The boys did not leave as much as one crack for the light to penetrate—they covered every imaginable aperture,

even the keyholes. When it was done they sneaked away without a sound, silently convulsed with laughter.

Because of New Year's eve, the Hill Farm people had gone to bed later than usual. Thus it was natural that they should sleep late on New Year's day; they would have done so in any case. They awoke one by one late in the afternoon and felt as if they had slept enough. Everything was as dark as the grave around them, so they did not rise, but went to sleep again, highly astonished to have awaked in the middle of the night.

The whole day passed. In the evening the farmer awoke again and had the feeling that he had slept much longer than he was wont. He crawled out of bed and went to the door to see if it was not beginning to dawn. But of course darkness had come again outside, a thick winter gloom which weighs upon your eyes. The man thought that he had made some mistake, and went back to the bedroom. One of the sons opened the door from the alcove and asked with a yawn what time it was. The father felt of the hands of the clock. It was after seven. In winter, of course, it is dark both morning and night at that hour.

"Is that all?" complained the son. "I am wide awake. I'm afraid I'm ill. I have such a hollow feeling in my stomach, as if I were hungry."

"Hm," said the old man reassuringly, "you just lie down and don't disturb the rest of us. If you're sick, we'll take care of you when it grows light."

With these words the father crawled back to bed. To tell the truth, he too felt a strange desire to eat, but of course that must be imagination. His wife was awake and yawned with loud groans when the man came back, but she said nothing. Soon after, all were sound asleep again.

It so happened that the Hill Farm people were housing the Thunder-calf*

* An old crippled peasant who figures in another of the author's stories.

that New Year's night. He came there regularly, preferring old-fashioned places, and the farmer always showed him hospitality. He had arrived in the evening, had paid for his supper with a song, and had been placed for the night in the settee-bed. He slept faithfully with the others. When the farmer was up feeling the hands of the clock, he heard the old Thunder-calf turn over and growl in his sleep. But when the house was quiet again, the Thunder-calf slept on with the others without making the slightest sound.

Of course it would be too much to expect the live stock to keep quiet all day, but it had been taken care of. When a prank is to be played, the job has to be done thoroughly. The boys from Keldby had been on the look-out New Year's day and had seen that there was no smoke rising from the chimney of the Hill Farm. Their ruse had worked. Two of them took it upon themselves to go quietly up to the farm and feed the cattle with all due precautions, so that there should be no noise from the barn.

The farm people slept through the second night without stirring much. But when they awoke they were feeling refreshed and hungry. The old man got up and felt the hands of the clock. Now it was eight, this time in the morning, but they naturally thought that only one hour had passed since they were awake the last time. The sons were half crazy from sleeping, they mewed aloud with restlessness and began without any reason to laugh and play in the pitch-dark alcove. The daughters in the other alcove kicked their featherbeds and whinnied like young heifers. The Thunder-calf, too, had come to life and could be heard tossing and twisting himself in the settee-bed like a big, hairy ogre. He had begun to hum, first to himself, then louder and more sociably. Once in a while he sucked and clucked with his tongue from mere well-being. But he was still under the influence of sleep, and did not want to talk, al-

though the sons egged him on and asked him to sing. The big fellows became bolder and bolder in the darkness and thought of ribald jokes which caused much laughter.

"Quiet!" ordered the farmer through the bedroom door. "What sort of talk is that on a holy New Year's morning?"

The sons stopped obediently. But soon after, even the father forgot himself and poked his wife who was lying wide awake.

"I'm hungry and thirsty——"

These words called forth loud assent from the alcoves. But the wife was of a serious disposition, and thought they had gone crazy. Would they please shut up!

A little later she jumped up, struck by terror on hearing a faint sound as if of eating, coming from the sons' alcove. Must she really believe that they were making free with the strictly inviolate smoked sausages and legs of mutton which were hanging from the beam over the beds? She was not mistaken.

"Aren't you ashamed?" she cried, hurt and angry. "What are you doing? Are you lying there gnawing the hams? Fie on you!"

Her words were followed by a shamed silence from the alcove. But the housewife remained sitting in bed, reflecting. She herself had a strange empty feeling in her stomach. And if her husband also thought so—where was the harm in having a bit to eat in bed as an early breakfast? After all, it was a holiday. After a short consultation with the farmer, she rose and groped her way to the kitchen, where she laid in a good stock of cake and bread. Then she tapped a big jug of Christmas beer, and returned with all she could carry. You may be sure the food was gobbled up at once. And while they were lying there eating and drinking, the conversation became uncommonly lively. There was a gossiping and merriment as never any morning before. They were all struck by the seemingly unending New Year's night and talked at great length

about it. They also remembered to wish each other Happy New Year.

No one had had enough to eat, so the wife allowed everyone to go out to the pantry to take what he pleased. Then began a procession on bare feet and a returning with big hunks of bread and cheese and meat which were eaten in bed. The fire was quite out, and they were chilled to the bone. One of the daughters took it upon herself to go out and make a fire in the big stove which stood in the wall and heated the two rooms. But as long as it was so cold, nobody found it reasonable to get up and dress. And as they had eaten and drunk so well, and knew it would be a long wait before the room was warm, first one and then the other lay back to take a little nap. This nap lasted until evening.

But when they awoke along in the third night, they could not possibly sleep any longer. The sons went to the open door, and stood there in cold and darkness on the look-out for signs of dawn. They thought they had never lived through such an interminably long night. The father put on a few clothes and went out to feed the cows; they were chewing the cud and seemed quite satisfied as if they had just been fed. The horses, too, were cozy and content, but there was a good deal less chaff in the bin. The man kept his thoughts about this to himself. It was, of course, the Nisse who had been busy, but one does not talk of those things.

As there still seemed no end to the night, all one could do was to go to bed again. The sons were wide awake and asked permission to light the candles. They wanted to sit in bed and play cards, the heathens, but here the mother put her foot down. Why burn the candles without any good reason? But the sons could not keep quiet any longer.

They were now full of energy, and were lying with wide open eyes, laughing and making noises. The old people scolded them for their noisiness, but had to laugh

themselves. The daughters disappeared under their featherbeds from which their giggling sounded as if they had sunk deep under the ground. The dark room resounded with a laughter which could not be held back, the silly heart's delight which is like an overflow of health after sleep. They lay there guffawing, cackling, and tossing in the featherbeds without finding an outlet for the enormous energy which they had amassed. The sons began to wrestle like schoolboys with tremendous bursts of laughter. The girls tickled each other until they shrieked like pigs galloping in the open on a spring day. During all this, they became thirsty and gulped down strong beer, thinking up new pranks to pass this terribly long night.

The Thunder-calf had to do his share, and was now more than willing to take part in the merriment. First he sang a song, one of his very best, which usually he did not sing unless paid with a penny or a big bag full of pipe scrapings. It was strong and rugged and well fit to be sung in the dark. It made a hit, almost too much so. The sons filled the rooms with their roaring.

After this the Thunder-calf told riddles. They were fine, of the kind where the solution lies near at hand but cannot well be told. The old cripple was in high spirits. He was lying on his back in the settee-bed, beating the air with his long arms, incessantly cracking the funniest jokes without ever laughing himself. He talked deeply and well; there was a mossy sound in his voice as when one stamps on springy meadow ground—it was the hunch of his back, reverberating from the deep notes of his voice. His tongue bubbled and cooed softly in his toothless and hairy mouth, like a well in the bottom of a clear, velvety-black peat bog.

However, the Thunder-calf soon noticed that the gifts of his intellect were wasted here, nobody listened for laughter and fun. So he stopped talking and lay

for a long while wheezing like a pair of bellows that are letting out the air while the blacksmith gets ready to strike. Here one needed a more drastic joke than could be contained in words, and it took him quite a little time to think it out. Meanwhile the others were romping in their beds and forgot all about him. Nobody wondered why the old man sneaked around in the dark or what he was up to, until he was heard bleating like a goat and indulging in the most fervent kissing. Groping around everywhere, he had got hold of a living sparrow in a hole under the eaves, and was holding it in his big clasped hands—and all the time petting it effusively, he suddenly and slyly took a long step across the floor and chucked it under the girls' featherbed!

The sparrow fluttered, the girls shrieked, scared to death. Suddenly they felt something jump up on the bed—it was the cat who had become wide awake, and now began chasing the sparrow in the dark. The girls screamed, almost fainted, came to life again, laughed—the sparrow buzzed like a spindle from corner to corner in the pitch-dark alcove bed, while the cat pounced upon it with spread claws, hitting the wall again and again. At last the girls caught the cat and almost choked it in their eagerness. They pulled it down under the covers and caressed it so violently that Puss hissed and sputtered like a powder fuse. This made them quite hysterical with joy; they howled in a higher and higher pitch, and finally wailed as if in the utmost pain. Meanwhile the Thunder-calf had gone to bed again and was accompanying the concert with the deepest and warmest bird-notes. He sang like a cuckoo that hides under the foliage on a dewy evening in May, imitating its own soft echo, singing so gently and quietly that at last the song is lost in the mist, and dies in the falling night. He began again with a new long whistling note, full of early drowsiness and the first heat of the sun. He chirped,

clucked, trilled, meanwhile groping and gesticulating in the dark with his long crabbed arms. Now he was recalling his youth, with creaks and groans in his old alder-stump of a body. He lost himself in the rush and ringing resonance of that spring time which had been lost but was still living in his heart. Finally he became still, forgetting everything around him, and lay there panting in the dark.

When the others had exhausted the fun over the sparrow, they invented new pranks. They did not need any great pretext for laughing. They had no experience whatever in merriment, and were grateful for any utterance of joy which they succeeded in giving forth, be it ever so coarse or low. One of the sons took it into his head to shout and wail like a madman, and felt a strange deep pleasure in doing so. The hidden and delicate point to this was probably the consciousness of being able to behave thus while still in his senses. The youngest son showed his ingenuity in another way, crawling out on the floor and beginning to play the cripple. He tied one leg up with a strap and hobbled around in the dark, enjoying the happiness of his game silently and alone. The farmer was telling splendid yarns about tricky cattle-deals. Not a soul listened to him, but he enjoyed his own stories to the very marrow of his bones. All his days he had found his best fun in keeping all these sinister deeds to himself and now for the first time he felt the thrill of revealing the very darkest and foulest recesses of his mind.

The only one who kept aloof from the orgy was the housewife—after all, it is beneath as well as above the dignity of a housewife to take part in the moods of the family. But she was taking notice of one thing after the other, and she was aghast. She had never before lived through such a night. She did not recognize her husband, she did not understand her children: they were all *helping themselves*. She had never heard that one must

have a good time. But her family were certainly having their fling, and evidently it was making them wonderfully happy. It was not at all becoming to them, for of course they had never before tried it. They did it awkwardly and rolled around as clumsily as bowling balls that are not quite round. The wife was not happy. She had the feeling that her power was at stake. In such a case one has to keep quiet and later in daily life try to regain the upper hand little by little. She foresaw that she would need many crying spells on future nights to fetch her husband down from the pinnacles of joy.

But the silent are not heeded. The house was in its seventh heaven.

They laughed and frolicked all the rest of the night. The Hill Farm people went into the New Year with a superabundance of vitality and an accumulated creative force capable of moving mountains.

Verily, it was Holger Danske* who awoke that New Year's morning.

But with all this they had a lurking notion of having awaked rather late, and they suspected they were behind the times when, later in the morning, dressed in their best, they appeared outside of the church and did not meet a single person there. The church was closed and locked, and they did not know what to make of it.

A young man from Keldby turned up, a most obliging fellow, who told them that there was no service because it was the third of January instead of New Year's day, as they might have good reason to believe. The same young man informed them that people in Keldby had been surprised not to have seen any smoke from their chimney for two days. He

displayed a desire to explain many other things, but the Hill Farm people declared that they had to go home. They did not like his face and did not dare look at him. They said a hasty goodbye and hurried home in very low spirits. I suppose one must feel quite dizzy by the discovery that the time in which one is living and which one considers brand new, has been worn out by everyone else long ago. There was no laughter now among the Hill Farm people. They thought it very impolite of the man from Keldby to begin to laugh as soon as they had turned their backs.

Coming home, they examined the windows but found nothing remarkable about them except faint traces of yeast and paper. They had been clear enough that morning. The fact is that the Keldby boys had removed the paper in the night of the third of January. They had begun to have misgivings, as there was no sign of life in the farm all during the day after New Year's. Suppose the farm people were sleeping themselves to death in there! So the boys had sneaked up there in the evening to investigate. They had heard the screams of laughter and revelry in the dark, as if the people were having a great feast, and under the cover of the thundering festivities they had soaked and taken off the paper from the window panes.

The Hill Farm people did not show themselves outside of their precincts during the rest of the holidays. They sat at home in the clear frosty evenings and heard the bursts of laughter that sounded from Keldby across the lake.

* Holger Danske is reputed to sit sleeping with his beard grown to the table, but will rise again in Denmark's hour of greatest need.





Winter Evening, Upsala

BY TERENCE HEYWOOD

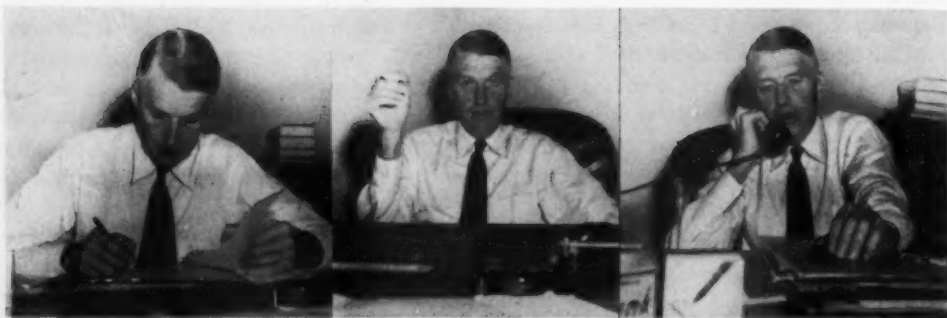
THE sky is stretched, the air is slightly nervous;
The Castle shadow lunges on the town;
The bridges shrink, drawing the house-clumps closer;
While on the stiffening snow I saunter down

Through Odinslund, the lights of Drottninggatan
That come out one by one piercing the high
And intricate grille of sycamores, and starpricks
Puncturing the tautened diaphragm of sky.

Patterns emerge: the vigorous curves of evening
Are drawn as on a graph; all sounds are jotted—
Tram-rumbles, sledgebells' tinkle, certain voices,
Foot-scrunching—and acoustic contours plotted.

Patterns emerge: a *matsal's* sweating window
Shows up a group of students. At the door
I join them, now no longer an intruder,
But drawn into the pattern of their spoor,—

Into their lives and several aspirations,
And share in tunes ascending to the head
Out of the heart.—Above the spired Cathedral
Throbs with undying rhythms of the dead.



A Delegate of Sweden

Interview and Photographs by La Verne Harrell

MR. SVEN GRAFSTRÖM, I understand you are Delegate of Sweden to the United Nations. Is it true that Sweden still preserves its neutrality and is neither a member of a Scandinavian military federation or the Atlantic Pact?

Mr. Grafström—There is no Scandinavian military federation. We are not members of the Atlantic Pact. Sweden still maintains a policy of standing outside great power blocs. On the other hand, Sweden, as a member of the United Nations, has taken responsibilities whereby our position cannot be regarded as neutral in the old sense of the word. For instance, Sweden has not taken and could not take a neutral position in the Korean crisis.

Your Excellency, is it true that Sweden is prepared to defend itself?

Mr. Grafström—Yes, most certainly. It is the constant end of my Government to strengthen the defense of Sweden and may I add, the Swedish people has shown itself prepared to make all sacrifices necessary to keep our powder dry in a troubled world.

Your Excellency, do you find New York a hospitable town for the United Nations?

Mr. Grafström—Yes, certainly. One is struck by the deep interest of people here in the United Nations. The understanding which the Americans have for the ideals we work for is most encouraging.

The Swedish government has contributed a field ambulance to the UN effort in Korea, has it not, your Excellency?

Mr. Grafström—Yes, our field ambulance has arrived in Korea.

How is the field hospital equipped?

Mr. Grafström—A ward with 200 beds in addition to surgical and x-ray departments is attended by 10 doctors and 16 nurses. All personnel, including male nurses and specialists, number 200. This includes dentists and pharmacists. There are 30 ambulances, automobiles, and trucks.

Your Excellency, what seems to you to be Sweden's attitude toward Peiping?

Mr. Grafström—We think this question has to be decided by the proper



Scandinavian Airlines System

UN Medical Unit from Sweden for Korea

organ of the United Nations. Sweden, having recognized the Peiping government, will cast its vote for the Peiping government as a representative of China in the United Nations.

Your Excellency, in the coming Assembly, will Sweden take membership in any of the various councils?

Mr. Grafström—We have achieved membership in the Economic and Social Council. This is the first time that Sweden gets a seat in one of the United Nations council bodies.

In the Assembly, what stand does Sweden take concerning Jerusalem?

Mr. Grafström—Sweden, like everybody else, wants protection of the holy places in Jerusalem. At the 1949 Assembly Sweden, together with the Netherlands, proposed a scheme for an internationalization of those places only. That proposal failed in favor of

an internationalization plan for the whole area of Jerusalem. Against the opposition of the most interested parties, Jordan and Israel, it has, however, not been possible to carry through this plan. Sweden will therefore probably re-introduce her plan for a functional internationalization at the coming General Assembly.

What is the policy of Sweden within the United Nations concerning membership in general?

Mr. Grafström—Sweden maintains the policy of universality in the admittance of new members. The question has long been on the agenda. Sweden has on several occasions put forward the idea of admittance in block of the countries seeking membership but which are still kept outside the organization.

Scandinavians in America

Miss Karen M. Petersen of New Orleans, La., is continuing her energetic campaign to establish a Danish-American Baby Home for adoptive children in Gentofte in Denmark. Such a home, established along the lines of "The Cradle" in Evanston, Ill., is greatly desired and will fill a long felt need in Denmark. The town of Gentofte will give the ground for the home, while the Danish Government will pay the running expenses. A Committee headed by Mr. Viggo Carstensen, Mayor Aage E. Jørgensen, Dr. Anne Rothe-Meyer, Mrs. Ingeborg Christiansen and Mrs. Vera Skalts is working on the project in Denmark. It is hoped that most of the funds for the actual building of the home will come from Danish-Americans. Among the ways and means to raise funds is the sale of dolls in Danish national costumes, which together with further information may be obtained from Miss Karen M. Petersen, 1439 Louisiana Avenue, New Orleans, La. Contributions may be sent to "Dan-Am," c/o Ingemann Olsen, Royal Danish Consul General, International Bldg., New Orleans, La.

Professor Francis Bull of the University of Oslo spent two months this fall in the United States lecturing under the auspices of the Institute of International Education. This was his first visit to this country, although before the war he lectured in all the Scandinavian countries, and in Paris, London and Cambridge.

In addition to being the greatest living authority on Norwegian literature, he has been frequently called "a one-man university." This title was earned during three years in a Nazi concentration camp, where he put his amazing memory and profound knowledge of Scandinavia at the service of his fellow-prisoners. In this period he gave some thirteen hundred lectures, even under the constant danger

of being discovered by the prison authorities.

Betty Wermin, sensational new star of the Stockholm Opera, made her American debut with the New York City Opera Company on October 19. Though she was "discovered" in Sweden by Laszlo Halasz on one of his recent European scouting tours, Miss Wermin was actually born in Minneapolis of Scandinavian parents. She is a protégé of the great contralto Karin Branzell and the conductor Fritz Busch, and is married to Gösta Björling, brother of Jussi Björling, who is himself a leading tenor of the Stockholm Opera.

"The Swedish Pioneer" is the name of a new historical journal which is published by the Swedish Pioneer Historical Society. The editor is Professor Paul A. Varg of Ohio State University. The society will this year also publish Gustaf Unonius' well-known work *Minnen* under the title "A Pioneer in Northwest America, 1841-1858." This work has been translated by Dr. J. O. Backlund of Svenska Amerikanaren Tribunen.

Svante Palm's historic residence on Ninth Street in Austin, Texas, will become a Swedish-American museum, which will show how Palm and other Swedish pioneers lived and worked. The idea was first put forth by Gerald B. Knape, publisher of Texas Posten, and was enthusiastically supported by the Scandinavian Club of Austin, which will be grateful for donations to complete the project.

Svante Palm came to Texas in 1844 and was the uncle of Swen M. Swenson, the first Swedish settler in the Lone Star State. An article on Svante Palm by Mayme Evans appeared in the Spring 1949 Issue of the REVIEW.



Associated Press

AMERICAN LUCIAS TO SWEDEN

Left to right: Lois Westerdahl, New York; Carol Audet, Connecticut; American Lucia Bride Norma Freeman, Illinois; Lorraine Olson, Seattle; Sweden's Lucia Bride Gerd Larsson

Professor James J. Robbins, Vice President of the American University in Washington, D.C., has been made a Knight of the Order of the North Star. Professor Robbins studied Swedish labor problems in 1938-39 and was American press and cultural attaché in Stockholm 1945-49. His book "The Government of Labor Relations in Sweden" was published by the American-Scandinavian Foundation and University of North Carolina Press in 1942.

"Human Relations and World Peace," the Commencement Address given by Dr. Ralph J. Bunche at Gustavus Adolphus College on June 4, has been printed and may be obtained by writing the college. The brochure also contains excerpts from the address of Ambassador Erik C. Boheman, the remarks of the Countess

Bernadotte in acknowledging the establishment of the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Foundation, and the announcements of President Roy A. Hendrickson and Dr. Edgar M. Carlson.

Oscar G. Marell, who this fall retired as managing director of the Swedish Chamber of Commerce of the U.S.A., has been elected a member of the Senior Council of the Chamber. Mr. Einar Kumm has succeeded Mr. Marell as managing director.

The Reverend Alfred Jensen of Des Moines, Iowa, was re-elected president of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church at its 73rd annual convention in Askov, Minn. Pastor Jensen served as part-time president of the Church from 1936 to 1942, at which time the office was put on



Danish Information Office

ANDERSEN'S BIRTHDAY AT ODENSE, APRIL 2

The English actor Michael Redgrave reading "The Emperor's New Clothes." The rope is the one Andersen carried on his travels in case of an hotel fire.

a full-time basis. This will be Pastor Jensen's fifth consecutive term as president.

"What Education for Democracy?" was the topic for a Symposium held on August 21 at the Congress of the American Federation of Teachers at the Leland Hotel in Detroit. The participants were Miss Muna Lee of the U.S. State Department, Dr. George Counts of Teachers College, Columbia University, and C. H. W. Hasselriis who spoke on education in Denmark with particular reference to the Danish Folk Schools.

Seventeen countries were represented in Hollywood, Calif., on August 1 on the program dedicated to world unity through music and the arts. Earth, or soil of a

country being an eternal symbol of a land, the Hollywood Bowl had invited seventeen countries that have produced great art to present small portions of earth from each country's historic center—the earth to be blended with the soil of the Hollywood Bowl in an expression of peace and understanding through the arts. These contributions of earth were presented by world famous figures. The artist representing Denmark was Jean Hersholt, who poured the first cupful of soil, and the Danish earth was from Andersen's grave in Copenhagen and was sent to Hollywood by Editor Henry Hellssen of Berlingske Tidende of Copenhagen. The impressive ceremony coincided with the 75th Anniversary of Hans Christian Andersen's death.

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Also Library of Congress honored Hans Christian Andersen—in that the current Exhibit-of-the-Week, July 29 through August 4, featured the Anniversary. Shown in the exhibit was a facsimile of the original manuscript of one of Andersen's best-loved stories, "The Emperor's New Clothes" (Kejserens Nye Klæder); a copy of "The Riverside Magazine for Young People" for April, 1869, open to the story "Luck May Lie in a Pin," which Andersen sent especially to America for its first publication; and a recent translation (6 vols., New York, 1949) of all of the Andersen stories prepared by the film actor and bibliophile, Jean Hersholt, who recently announced that he will give his outstanding collection of Andersen first editions to the Library of Congress.

The Hans Christian Andersen Statue in Chicago—in Lincoln Park—was the scene of an impressive ceremony when the Danish National Committee in that city together with the members of the excursion of the Danish American Club of Aalborg (Denmark) laid a wreath at the Andersen Statue in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of his death. The speaker was Dr. J. Christian Bay, Librarian Emeritus of the John Crerar Library of Chicago.

The Scandinavian Club of Greater Kansas City held its Annual Fall Banquet October 4, with 350 attending. Hon. Gösta Oldenburg of Chicago, Consul General for Sweden, made an address explaining why Scandinavians must differ in their political and economic relations but work together in cultural channels such as The American-Scandinavian Foundation. In America they find it best to unite under the name "Scandinavian." He introduced Dr. Leach as "a grandfather, not a godfather" of fraternization. Scan-

dinavian Airlines presented the Club with flags and showed a technicolor film of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Mr. Bror W. Unge, president of the Club and newly appointed Swedish consul, presided. Kansas City is conducting considerable trade with the Northern nations that will materially help their dollar shortage.

President Alexander Jóhannesson of the University of Iceland visited American universities in September and October as guest of the Department of State. He lectured in the University of North Dakota and Harvard University on "The Origin of Speech."

Mr. Erik Lassen of the Copenhagen Industrial Museum of Art will give a series of lectures at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York this winter. Nine lectures on the Decorative Arts of Scandinavia Since the Reformation will be given on successive Sundays, from December 3 to February 11, and are open to the public without charge.

The Norwegian painter Per Krogh has been entrusted with the artistic decoration of the new UN Security Council auditorium in New York. The architect Arnstein Arneberg is in general charge of the hall's interior decoration.

Numerous Scandinavian firms were represented at the First United States International Trade Fair which was held in Chicago August 7-20. Among the exhibits that attracted much attention were the ones of Danish industrial arts and crafts, textiles and dairy products, the Swedish food, engineering, wood and chemical products, and the Norwegian silver and enamel ware, sporting goods, furniture and canned goods.

THE QUARTER'S HISTORY



DENMARK

THE OUTSTANDING events of the third quarter were without a doubt the cabinet crisis and the new elections to the Folketing.

The foreign exchange deficit that characterized the first part of 1950—partly due to rising prices after the devaluation and partly to the implemented liberalization of imports—was what urged the Government to summon Parliament on August 8th in order to submit proposals including the introduction of further import restrictions, and new taxes.

Following the defeat of his proposed import control measure, Prime Minister Hans Hedtoft handed in his resignation and that of his cabinet to King Frederik IX. The King then signed a decree dissolving Parliament. Meanwhile, according to the Danish Constitution, the Government and the Rigsdag continued to function.

DANES OF BOTH SEXES went to the polls on September 5 to elect a new Folketing (Lower House), the old having been dissolved on August 9, following the resignation of the minority Labor Government. Prime Minister Hans Hedtoft thus referred to the people the main issues, namely—how to finance the defense appropriation of 350,000,000 Kroner (\$50,000,000) already voted by the outgoing House, and the proposition to reduce imports as a means of remedying an adverse trade balance. Defense was not an issue in the campaign, but the problem of distributing the tax burden of the new defense appropriation was.

The election gave the following results:

	<i>Seats</i>
Social Democrats	59
Liberals	32
Conservatives	27
Radical Liberals	12
Justice Union (Single Tax)	12
Communists	7
	—
	149
Faroe Islands	2

AFTER THE ELECTION the Hans Hedtoft minority government (Labor) carried on upon the request of King Frederik when it was found impossible to form any coalition regime. Premier Hedtoft, under the circumstances, agreed to continue as a minority government and pledged cooperation with all democratic parties along the lines of the last three years.

Prime Minister Hedtoft reconstructed his cabinet by making the following changes:

H. C. S. Hansen, Minister of Finance, succeeded J. O. Krag as Minister of Commerce, Industry and Shipping. Mr. Krag became Economic Counselor to the Danish Embassy at Washington, and Viggo Kampmann became Minister of Finance. Carl Petersen, Minister of Public Works, was made Minister of Agriculture, while Frede Nielsen, Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs, became Minister of Public Works. Mrs. Bodil Koch succeeded Frede Nielsen as Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE OUTBREAK OF WAR in Korea naturally was of great concern to the government and the people of Denmark. Speak-

ing at Lundesborg on the island of Fyn on July 2 Prime Minister Hedtoft said:

"It is only natural that the war events in the Far East should occupy minds also in Denmark. Nor is this surprising considering our attitude. The whole democratic Denmark shares the view of the Security Council and its condemnation of the attack upon South Korea.

"The question of the position which the Danish Government should take to the appeal which Secretary General Trygve Lie has sent us is momentarily being considered in the Danish Foreign Office and will be laid before the Foreign Affairs Committee one of these days.

"In the nature of things, Denmark has no possibility of participating in military action in the Far East, and so far as I know there is altogether no trade between Denmark and North Korea. The question of economic sanctions therefore will be out of the question, too, as far as our country is concerned.

"Every breach of peace must of necessity cause anxiety for the future. The situation naturally calls for watchfulness, but there is no reason to act as if a world catastrophe is imminent. There is no sign of that, according to the information which this Government possesses at the moment."

The Danish Government offered to place at the disposal of the United Nations a fully equipped hospital ship with crew, physicians and nurses.

The ship selected was the M/S "Jutlandia" of the Danish East Asiatic Company. The "Jutlandia" is of 13,164 tons displacement and her capacity will be from 150 to 200 patients. The Danish Red Cross will be in charge.

All expenses connected with the refitting and equipment, chartering and working of the vessel will be defrayed by the Danish Government.

The offer of a Danish freighter, previously made to the United Nations by the Lauritzen Line of Copenhagen, was taken

over by the Danish Government and tendered by it to the United Nations. The vessel is the "Bella Dan" of 6100 tons built at the Aalborg Shipyards. The vessel will be at the free service of the United Nations for six months with crew and supplies delivered at Aalborg or New York at the pleasure of U.N.

THE MARSHALL ORGANIZATION has approved a technological fund of some 500,000 dollars in aid of scientific installations with a view to the development of Danish industrial and agricultural projects to improve productivity.

Denmark's liberalized part of its imports from the Marshall countries—about 50 per cent according to the lists submitted to the Marshall organization in Paris, so far—in a practical way has amounted to 67 per cent. It is not expected that the two-thirds can be altogether maintained, but the percentage is expected to amount to well over the 50 per cent.

IN THE ELECTIONS FOR a new Parliament in Slesvig-Holstein on July 9, the South Slesvig Voters Association (Danish minority) scored a success in Flensburg where its two members, Hermann Olsson and Samuel Munchow, were re-elected over the opposing German candidates. The final result was that the South Slesvig Voters Association with proportional representations will have four mandates in the Landdag whose composition will be as follows:

Social Democrats	19
Christian Democratic Union	16
South Slesvig Voters Assn.	4
Free Democrats	8
Refugees	15
German Party	7

The Communist Party suffered defeat. It pulled only 2.2 per cent of votes cast (against 5.1 in the previous Landdag election in 1947). Noteworthy was the

growth of refugee votes, making the Refugee Party the third largest in this West German State.

DANISH DELEGATE HERMOD LANNUNG in an address before the Council of Europe at Strasbourg, in which he advocated the admission to the Council of the West German Republic, touched on the refugee problem. He stressed the problem for Denmark of the great many German refugees in South Slesvig that now equal the native population of the South Slesvig regions. The people of Denmark agree, he said, on the importance of alleviating the tragic consequences of the great German exodus so that the refugees might find abiding placement in a manner such as would ease the dangerous pressure as in this instance upon the Danish border. As he pointed out, most of these refugees were of East Prussian origin and never had had any connection with the regions of their present places of exile.

The Danish Government has increased its support of cultural work in South Slesvig from 3,400,000 Kroner to 9,400,000 Kroner.

At the International Refugee Committee meeting in Paris, Denmark was invited to present her views on the refugee problem in South Slesvig (Germany). The Danish Foreign Office expert on South Slesvig, Dons Moller, referred to the enormous pressure of the refugees. The population has grown to 605,000 from a native population of 355,000. The Committee was sympathetic and its chairman, M. George Pernot, promised to keep the Danish views in mind.

ON JULY 3, 1950, the discount rate of Danmarks National-bank was raised to 4.5 per cent. It had been 3½ per cent since January 15, 1946. The immediate reaction to this increase was a certain decline on the bond market.

THE DANISH RED CROSS will build two children's homes in Greenland. This summer a number of Danish teachers left for service in the schools of Greenland. Eventually some fifty teachers will be required, including native Greenlanders educated in Danish seminaries. Mikael Gam is the new director of schools in Greenland.

NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN the governments of Denmark and the United States on Bluie West 8 Airport at Søndre Fjord in Greenland have resulted in an exchange of notes according to which the Danish military authorities will take over the operations of the airport.

In undertaking operations at Bluie West 8, Denmark will maintain the facilities. The taking over of operations by the Danish authorities will not prevent the United States from using Bluie West 8 in the future.

THE LAUGE KOCH EXPEDITION has returned to Copenhagen. Dr. Koch said upon arrival that there were good chances for the mining of lead on Greenland but that a great deal of work remained to be done and would require a considerable investment.

THE DANISH PEARYLAND EXPEDITION under the direction of Eigil Knuth returned in August to Copenhagen after three years and received a rousing welcome home. It will take a year, perhaps two, Knuth said, to complete the scientific reports.

The Danish ocean exploration ship "Dana" also returned to Copenhagen from its annual expedition to the North Sea and Northern waters. In the North Sea the expedition under the direction of Dr. A. Vedel Taning had found plaice decreasing and in this connection had stocked plaice extensively on the Dogger Bank. At Eastern Iceland the wander-

ings of herring have been studied, and at Greenland the prevalence of cod. The echo-sounding apparatus had been of great value. In October members of the expedition are to meet with members of similar expeditions from Scotland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland to exchange experience and compare data.

THE DANISH GOVERNMENT has granted a million and a half Kroner (Kr. 1,540,000) for an extension of the Bohr Institute of Theoretical Physics at the Copenhagen University. The funds are to be used partly for new installations in the new underground laboratories of the Institute, to which three private Danish foundations have contributed another 1,500,000 Kroner.

THE JELLINGE MOUNDS IN JUTLAND where Denmark's first historic king—Gorm the Old—(900-950) and his Queen Thyra (Tyre) are buried, and the famous Jellinge Stones inscribed in runic letters to Gorm and Thyra are to be the center of a large State park sanctuary.

NIELS BUKH, principal of Ollerup Gymnastic Folk School, internationally known for his Bukh system of gymnastics, passed away in Denmark on July 7, seventy years of age. His last visit to the United States with his team was in 1939 when it appeared at the New York World's Fair.

KING HAAKON OF NORWAY on August 21 visited Aarhus, second largest Danish city, on board the Royal ship "Norge." The visit was unofficial, but Norway's king received a radiant reception and was welcomed by the Danish Royal family, local officials and notables and Norwegian students attending Aarhus University.

PRINCE ERIK, Count of Rosenborg, died in Copenhagen on September 11. He was 59. Prince Erik was the third son of Prince Waldemar, uncle of the late King Christian X.

THE DANISH DELEGATION to the United Nations Plenary Assembly was on hand at the opening in September. Permanent Delegate was Minister William Borberg, Acting Chairman during the absence of Gustav Rasmussen, Danish Foreign Minister, Chairman.

Other members of the Delegation were Alsing Andersen, MP.; Kristen Amby, MP.; Henry L. W. Jensen, MP.; Hermod Lannung; Mathias A. Wassard, Danish Ambassador to Norway; and Mrs. Bodil Begtrup, Danish Minister to Iceland. Advisers to the Delegation were Eiler Jensen, MP., Chairman of the Danish Federation of Labor; Finn T. B. Friis of the Danish Foreign Office; Kai Johansen, Press Attaché; Christian Holten Eggert and Mrs. Nonny Wright of the office of the Permanent Delegation in New York.

As agreed at the conference of the Scandinavian foreign ministers at Reykjavik (September 1) the ministers would support the election of the Netherlands as member of the Security Council after Norway, whose term expires on January 1, 1951. The foreign ministers of Denmark, Iceland and Norway at that conference had also declared themselves ready to back Sweden for membership on the Economic and Social Council to succeed Denmark.

FOREIGN MINISTER GUSTAV RASMUSSEN arrived in New York by SAS plane September 24 to present to the North Atlantic Council Denmark's acceptance in principle of the proposed creation of a Western defense force under unified command and the use of German units in that defense force.

THE FIGURES FOR RECENT DANISH defense appropriations are as follows:

1938-39	60,000,000 Kroner
1948-49	312,500,000 "
1950-51	358,000,000 "

To the last figure must be added now a further appropriation of 350,000,000 Kroner for defense passed by the Folketing on August 9 at its extraordinary session. Of this amount 50,000,000 Kroner is for civilian defense.

JOINT DANISH-NORWEGIAN NAVAL MANEUVERS—the first of its kind—and the largest and most extensive since the war—started September 4 along the length of the Southern coast of Norway.

BRITISH REVIEWS following concerts of the Danish State Radio Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Fritz Busch, at the Edinburgh Music Festival were elaborate in their praise. Christopher Grier in *The Scotsman* writes that the orchestra achieved "radiant fame." Musical critics of *The Bulletin*, *The Glasgow Herald*, *The Evening Dispatch*, express themselves in similar vein.

Carl Nielsen's 5th Symphony was exceedingly well received at the last concert. The conductor was Erik Tuxen. *The Daily Express* calls it one of the most prominent events of this year's Festival. The orchestra received a festive reception upon its return to Copenhagen.

THE "GALATHEA" EXPEDITION in September made a test cruise in the North Atlantic, between the Faroes and Norway, before it left in October on its two-years' expedition around the world to explore the great depths of the oceans.

The task which the expedition has set itself is to investigate the fauna and its conditions of life at the greatest ocean depths, which from a depth of 4000

meters and downwards cover more than one-third of the earth. This may actually be regarded as pioneer research, since nothing at all is known of the fauna from some 7000 meters and down to the greatest known depths, some 10,800 meters.

The preparatory work started in 1941, and plans began to take shape then. But it was not until April 7, 1948, that the Danish Deep-Sea Expedition Round the World became a reality, with a grant from the Danish Expeditionary Foundation of Kr. 250,000 for the purchase of the scientific equipment.

The extensive equipment of the expedition will include a steel hawser 15,000 meters in length, which will be used to lower apparatus down to great depths. Important results may also be expected in lesser depths, of 2,000-5,000 m. Specimens found from time to time indicate that the deep sea, where living conditions vary but slightly, contains species which may be regarded as survivals of a remote geological period. The most famous example found in recent years was a fish caught near South-East Africa which belonged to a group regarded as extinct since the Cretaceous Age, about 80 million years ago. It measured 150 cm. and weighed 57 kilos; it was, in other words, a quite large fish, and its scientific importance can only be compared with the Utopian idea of a land expedition returning with a monster reptile from Amazonia, as was once imagined by Conan Doyle.

No one has since found any other specimen of this Cretaceous Age fish. No one knows anything of the animal world which surrounds it in its natural habitat. Other prehistoric animals may live there with it. At any rate, it gave actual proof that many unknown animals, still live in the sea—perhaps even a giant eel to explain all the tales of the Great Sea Serpent.



Bild-Nytt

THE PRESIDENT OF ICELAND BEHIND HIS DESK

**ICELAND**

DURING THE THIRD QUARTER of 1950, the Icelanders were, like the rest of the democratic world, shocked by the events in Korea and the consequent danger of world conflict. As a member of the United Nations,

Iceland declared its full consent to and support of the Security Council action to restore peace in Korea, while unable, for obvious reasons, to render any direct assistance. However, the Icelandic Government has sent 150 tons of cod liver oil to needy children in Korea, and Secretary General Trygve Lie has gratefully acknowledged the gift on behalf of the United Nations.

THE INCREASED PREPAREDNESS of the Atlantic Pact nations has been in evidence in Iceland, reminding the Icelanders of the strategic importance of their country. Americans, British and Norwegian light naval units have paid calls at Icelandic ports, and considerable numbers of jet fighters have stopped at Keflavík en route to Britain and Germany.

AN EVENT OF INTERNATIONAL importance took place in Reykjavík in August as the foreign ministers of the Scandinavian countries held their annual fall meeting there for the first time. Halvard Lange of Norway, Gustav Rasmussen of Denmark and Östen Undén of Sweden flew to Iceland and joined by Bjarni Benediktsson of Iceland held their con-

ference in the Althing building in Reykjavík. They discussed the world situation in view of the meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations, exchanged information and opinion and coordinated their policies on Assembly questions as far as possible. These countries thus maintained their close cooperation on the international scene, thus making the voice of Scandinavian democracy stronger and more influential.

ICELAND IS BECOMING very popular as a place for Scandinavian conventions. The Union of Scandinavian Cooperatives (Nordisk Andelsforbund) held its annual board meeting in Reykjavík in June, with Sweden's Albin Johansson among those attending.

THE NORDIC CULTURE COMMISSION met in Reykjavík in early July and stressed the duty of the other Scandinavian countries to maintain close contact with Iceland because of its cultural position. The commission plans to start Scandinavian seminars in Iceland for such subjects as Icelandic language and literature, geology, and history of jurisprudence.

A SCANDINAVIAN CONGRESS of Christian students was held in Reykjavík in July with 175 delegates arriving on a chartered ship. Scandinavian conferences were also held by industrial safety experts and engineers. The friendship of Scandinavian cities was demonstrated by the visit to Reykjavík of five Stockholm City Fathers, led by City Council President Carl Albert Anderson. In addition to this were several sports visits and the Scandinavian Chess Championships in which the Iclander Baldur Möller successfully defended his title as Scandinavian Champion.

CONTINUED TROUBLES were experienced in Iceland's economic affairs dur-

ing the quarter. The devaluation of the króna was followed by a train of price rises as was expected, and this in turn led to labor troubles. The Federation of Labor Unions severely criticized the price index for July and threatened strike action. This crisis was solved when the Government agreed to the Federation's demands, but the question of prices and wages is still far from settled. Only indirectly related to this was the dispute between trawler seamen and owners which led to a costly trawler strike during the summer and fall.

THE HERRING SEASON during the summer once more dismally failed, while the fall season gave somewhat better results.

MISS MARGRÉT GUÐMUNDSDÓTTIR, one of the charming hostesses of the Loftleiðir Airline, was elected "Miss Airways of 1950" at an international competition in London in July. She and representatives from 15 other countries were not only paraded in the fashion of beauty contests, but also questioned on the duties of an air hostess. All this Margrét Guðmundsdóttir, to her own admitted surprise, passed with distinction to win the title and the acclaim of thousands present at London Airport in addition to thousands who admired her picture in newspapers and on television screens. Showered with gifts and fêted by the Lord Mayor of London and other dignitaries, Miss Guðmundsdóttir, or "Margrét flugfreyja" as the Icelanders know her, returned home and said it was all very nerve-wracking and she would certainly not want to go through another such contest.

IN SEPTEMBER THE AIRLINER in which Miss Airways most often served and which bore the proud name "Geysir," was tragically lost. She, however, was not with the plane on its last flight. Returning

to Reykjavík from Luxemburg, the "Gey-sir" ran into bad weather off southeastern Iceland and lost radio contact. In a blinding blizzard the plane crashed on Vatnajökull, the largest glacier in Europe. Fortunately the plane carried no passengers on this flight, and the crew of six miraculously survived the crash.

An intensive search by land, sea and air failed to locate the plane for three and a half days. Then suddenly clouds lifted from the 6000 feet high glacier and the wrecked airliner was found with the six young people still alive and living on meager rations. This started a race for the rescue by mountaineers and airmen. An American skiplane landed on the glacier, but was unable to take off again, and thus four men were added to the six stranded on the icecap. Finally, brave mountaineers from Akureyri who had travelled through vast stretches of lava and craters, reached the glacier top. They brought all ten airmen down through a gruelling walk down the almost impassable glacier slopes. Exhausted, but unhurt, the airmen and the young hostess arrived in Reykjavík, while the entire nation sighed with relief and rejoiced. This was one of the most dramatic rescues in Icelandic annals and was followed by millions in the world press.

SUCH A TRAGEDY MAKES the Icelanders no less determined to continue their great strides as a flying nation. In a country of no railroads and poor roads, the airplane is already immensely important to all communications. The Icelanders maintain weekly flights to England and Scandinavia. This summer they also maintained an air bridge to Greenland, flying over 30 sorties with men and materials to the Danish expedition of Lauge Koch and the French expedition of Paul Emile Victor.

THE PHYSICAL EXPLOITS of saga heroes were recalled in editorials and oral eulo-



Olafur K. Magnusson

QUEEN OF THE AIRWAYS

The Iceland girl who was awarded the prize as the world's best air hostess by a London committee

gies this summer, as Icelandic athletes returned from victorious journeys to the continent. The 250 pound giant Gunnar Huseby and the lightweight Torfi Bryngeirsson both became European champions and several of their fellows came close to victories. Returning home they were met by the President and other dignitaries and in general honored in the fashion of Greek Olympic Champions. The Icelanders, besides their fondness for athletics, are well aware of the publicity value for their country of these and other athletes, now famous throughout Western Europe.

NORWAY HAS ONCE MORE shown its great friendship for Iceland by a splendid gift. This time twenty Norwegian museums gave an invaluable collection of antiques, dating from the 7th to the 18th centuries. The collection was the first to be housed in the new building of the Na-

tional Museum on the University campus in Reykjavík, and was formally opened in July. The Norwegian Minister to Iceland, Torgeir Anderssen-Rysst, who was more than any one else responsible for this gesture, gave a speech presenting the gift, while the Minister of Education, Björn Ólafsson, gratefully accepted.

THE FIRST OPERA ever to be performed in Iceland is *The Marriage of Figaro*, given at the new National Theatre in June. The performance was by the Royal Opera Company of Stockholm, accompanied by the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Kurt Bendix. The singers included Joel Berglund, Hjördis Schymberg, Helga Görlin, Ben-na Lemon-Brundin and Sigurd Björling. The performances, seven in all, were tremendously successful, and the house might have been filled twenty times, if the company could have stayed longer.

BRENNU NJÁLL, Burnt-Nial to English speaking readers, made news in Iceland this fall. Occasioned by the publication of a new edition of the *Njálssaga*, fresh excavations were made at Bergpórhvoll to try to find evidence of the burning of the farm, of which the saga tells. Mr. Kristján Eldjárn, State Archeologist, made several excavations around the present farm. The result was that he found, at the depth of seven feet, burned wood and other evidence indicating clearly that a farm had burned there in saga times. This is added evidence that the burning of Njáll is fact and not fiction.

THE POPULATION OF ICELAND at the end of 1949 was 141,042 according to the Statistical Bulletin. Of this 54,707 lived in Reykjavík alone. 84,835 lived in the capital and other towns, 15,291 in villages and 41,626 in rural areas.



SHADOWS OF WORLD TENSION, already long, lengthened perceptibly in late June with the outbreak of the Korean conflict and fostered a chill of foreboding in Norway unequaled since a democratic Czechoslovakia sank from sight. Support for the emergency measure taken by the United Nations was unanimous in Parliament, however, and the Government met the Secretary General's appeal with an offer to place certain merchant tonnage at U.N. disposal. The conflict further accelerated Norwegian defense preparations under the plan whereby A-pact members envision reaching 1954 preparedness goals by the end of 1952. Speaking on August 13, Defense Minister Jens Christian Hauge forecast a speeded defense program: "We will concentrate on strengthening our land and air forces," he stated. "Home Guard forces will receive increased grants, and defences in North Norway will be strengthened in all respects."

Addressing Parliament on September 15, which had been summoned to consider the new defense proposals, Prime Minister Einar Gerhardsen stressed the seriousness of the immediate situation and called for united defense action. He maintained that proposals for a coalition Government in the immediate future had not won broad support, but that a continuing multi-partisan foreign policy was essential. Earlier announced proposals for the nationalization of sugar, solid fuels and medicines were to be shelved temporarily though nationalization of animal fodder imports and distribution would be carried out. Extraordinary defense costs were seen to necessitate a reduction of investment projects presently employing some 100,000 more persons than before the war. State in-

vestments would be reduced by 10% this year and by another 5% next year. Local authorities and private persons would be asked to reduce planned investment similarly. Taxes would be increased and a 10% cut in next year's imports was envisaged. "There is talk of sacrifices," he concluded, "but it is no sacrifice to do what is necessary to safeguard peace and freedom."

Meeting in closed session on September 21, the Parliament voted unanimously an extraordinary preparedness appropriation of 250,000,000 kroner to be apportioned over a 30-month period. Costs are to be met by a defense tax equivalent to 10% of the ordinary State tax on income and capital effective September 25. The same day, taxes on chocolates, sweets, and liquors were increased by from 100 to 150%. Defense costs from 1945 through 1949 averaged 313,000,000 kroner yearly or 3.35% of the Norwegian national income.

EARLIER, ON AUGUST 25, important proposals for strengthening national security had been announced by the Government. The first dealt with the extraordinary preparedness grant, while the second and third called for an extension and strengthening of the penal code and the granting of special emergency powers to be exercised by the authorities in event of war or national emergency. This second proposal called for an "Anti-Fifth Column Law," revising present provisions for punishment of treason—under 10 headings: participating in military action against Norway, supplying information to the enemy, sabotage, inciting illegal lockouts, strikes and boycotts, conducting enemy propaganda and spreading false and misleading rumors, supporting parties and organizations working for the enemy, informing against patriots, working for the enemy administration in occupied Norwegian territory, and in other ways assisting the enemy

against Norway or reducing Norway's power of resistance. These crimes would be punished by up to life imprisonment or by the death sentence if committed in war time. Among other points, it becomes punishable for a Norwegian to accept economic support from a foreign power, or from a party or organization acting in that power's interest, in order to influence public opinion with regard to the country's form of government, foreign policy, or for party purposes. It would also be punishable to spread publicly or communicate to foreign powers, "either deliberately or with gross negligence, false rumors or incorrect information which—if they gained credence—are calculated to endanger the country's internal or external security or its relations with foreign powers."

Emergency powers to be exercised by the Government in event or threat of war would provide for setting up treason courts and for interning suspected traitors, as well as for searching homes and confiscating property. Another provision would provide for censorship and control of the press. A final clause concerns authority to depart from existing legislation in order to maintain public order, health, supplies, and with regard to military measures and civilian defense.

Press comment on the measures—representing, as they do, a marked departure from Norwegian precedent, could be termed resigned. Necessity of having strong and clear-cut legislation ready and waiting was recognized though certain questions were raised in connection with determination of conditions under which it would be brought into effect. Parliament had not handled the matter at the time of writing and public opinion was adjusting itself to some of the frankly hard-bitten clauses.

ON SEPTEMBER 30 Prime Minister Gerhardsen termed the proposal for establishing a joint force in Western

Europe under a single command and supported by overseas aid, to be "A realistic and essential factor in effectuating the Atlantic Pact." The Prime Minister's statement assumed that questions as to eventual Norwegian contributions to the joint force, the powers of the commander in chief, and so forth, will be the subject of discussions where Norway's economic capacity and special circumstances will be taken into account.

He noted, however, that in Norway "There are strong doubts about permitting Germany to form military units." Norway would not, however, oppose Germany's participation in a joint force, provided a safe form for participation is devised, and assuming the desire of the West German Government and parliament to participate.

IN A LATE-JUNE REPORT to Parliament, Trade Minister Erik Brofoss stated that while Norway supports a policy of trade liberalization, because of its long-term effect on the Norwegian economy, results of the free-listings have not been particularly positive hereto. Imports, under the free import list, have until now, been greater than estimated, while imports have increased only to a limited extent. It has been noted that of the other member countries a mere 30% of their imports of canned fish, and 44% of their fresh fish, has been free-listed. Norway's position would obviously be improved if a greater percentage of fish imports were freed under the OEEC drive.

IN MAY, JUNE, AND JULY the number of foreign visitors to Norway was estimated at 251,000, compared with 190,000 for the same period last year. Norwegian Travel Association tabulations estimate that visitors this year will total 450,000—an increase of 20% over the 390,000 for last year.

ON THE BASIS OF HOTELS now under construction an additional 1,315 accommodations will be available for visitors during the coming year. The largest of these new hotels now building is the Hotel Viking in Oslo which can provide for 433 guests.

BY MID-JULY the Norwegian cost of living index had risen to 170 against 169.6 the previous month, and 100 in 1938. Devaluation, resulting in an increased price status for imported goods and the pegging of subsidies was largely responsible for the sharp up-swing during the summer. This now opens the way for new wage negotiations between national labor and employer organizations.

NORWAY'S JOINING the European Payments Union in September was termed "An important step in the direction of multilateral and freer trade between the European countries" by Arne Skaug, Norwegian Minister to the OEEC in Paris. Together with other "deficit" countries, Norway will be granted a certain sum—\$60,000,000, of which \$50,000,000 is a gift—to establish a so-called initial position.

REPORTS FROM NORWEGIAN coal mines on Spitzbergen indicate that mines at Longyear City will halt production, as Norway does not provide a sufficient market. It has been found difficult to dispose of Spitzbergen coal abroad. Production this year will therefore probably represent a 50,000 ton cut below last year's 400,000 ton output.

ON JULY 1 NORWEGIAN shipowners had 190 ships of 2,220,000 tons dw. on order. Of these, 111 of 1,830,000 tons were tankers, 40 of 268,600 were liners and 29 of 98,950 tons were tramps. The bulk of the vessels are building in Swedish and British yards.

NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPERS published on July 29 the text of a reply signed by 109 of Norway's leading authors to an appeal by the Russian author, Ilya Ehrenburg, where he urged Western writers to sign the Stockholm Resolution outlawing the atom bomb. Interesting and illustrative is the authors' reply: "We have not appended our names, nor do we intend to do so, after Ehrenburg's letter, even though he writes beautifully about human life, human culture, and peace among men—even though he tells us that all we hold dear is threatened with extinction. We know that. We know that another world war is the stake once more in a game of poker. But Ilya Ehrenburg has nothing to say to the poker players, and he does not mention the war. He does not cry, 'Down with arms!' He condemns a single weapon, the atom bomb. In the same way as the resolution, he brands as the only war criminal the person who first makes use of the atom bomb, but not the person who starts the war with other weapons. In five type-written pages Ehrenburg has not found space for a single genuine word of peace apart from what already appears in the resolution against the atom bomb."

The reply concludes that Ehrenburg's letter "Simply perjures the truth concerning the real causes of war and mass murder. If the peace appeal had been whole and complete we would have placed hope in it and affixed our signatures."

THE CELEBRATIONS marking Oslo's 900th anniversary ended October 1. The center of attraction has been the opening of the new city hall, which since May has been visited by over 500,000 persons.

THE DECISION of the Norwegian Parliament's Nobel Committee in awarding the 1950 Nobel Peace Prize to Dr. Ralph Bunche, United Nations mediator in Palestine, was greeted with satisfaction and pleasure in Norway. Press comment and public statements hailed the choice as one of particular significance in so far as this high recognition was for the first time extended to a member of the colored race.

TENS OF THOUSANDS of persons were assembled at a historic spot near Elverum on Sunday June 11 when King Haakon arrived to dedicate a monument in honor of the day when his "No" to Hitler shaped the course of Norwegian history. At that spot on April 10, ten years ago, King Haakon had refused an amicable collaboration between Norway and Germany. It was then that he stated his decision to abdicate in event the government were to decide that in the country's interests it would be necessary to give way to the German demands. It is now history that neither the King nor the government submitted. Significant indeed was the inscription on banners leading to the 30 foot granite monument which stated simply and adequately "We thank you for your 'No'."





SWEDEN

"It is obvious that the Swedish Government and the entire Swedish public opinion share the view expressed by the Security Council regarding the attack by North Korea," said Foreign Minister Östen Undén in a radio ad-

dress on July 1.

On July 2, Prime Minister Tage Erlander, in an address in the city of Östersund, further explained Sweden's position. He said that the attack by North Korea, which popular opinion in Sweden condemned as an act of violence likely to jeopardize universal peace, and the events which followed, have clearly shown the grave risks in the present world situation. "What happened, has also strengthened our opinion that we are following the right policy when we, according to our own resources, are building up our national defense to safeguard our independence and freedom."

"It is true that the war in Korea is a local war, which takes place in a distant corner of the world, but it does not belong in the same category as such wars of the early 20th century, which the Swedish public could read about without feeling unduly disturbed," Foreign Minister Undén said in an address in Linköping on August 20. "The war in Korea," he continued, "concerns the whole world. The members of the United Nations have committed themselves, to different extents and in various forms, and they have done this although neither the victim of the aggression nor the aggressor are members of the organization. The aggression is directed not only against South Korea, but also against the whole policy which the United Nations has pursued in the Korean question. The aggression constitutes an attempt to overthrow, by force, the provisional solu-

tion of the Korean problem which the U.N. Assembly has worked out under great difficulties."

A FIELD HOSPITAL, fully equipped with personnel, instruments, and materiel, was sent by Sweden to the United Nations forces in South Korea. It was organized by the Swedish Red Cross, which also selected its personnel, a total of 200 persons. Head of the unit is Dr. Carl Erik Groth, of the Government Board of Health, while Dr. Gerhard Rundberg, of the Medical Board of the Armed Forces, was chosen as its expert in hygienic and epidemiological matters and Captain Gunnar Nyby as its military chief.

"AFTER THE OUTBREAK of the Korean war the world no longer is divided into a Communistic bloc and an Atlantic group, with South America, India, Pakistan, Switzerland and Sweden outside both," the leader of the Liberal party, Dr. Bertil Ohlin, said in an address at Röstänga in southern Sweden on July 30. "Instead, the division is a Communistic bloc and a United Nations bloc, which embraces the rest of the world. As long as this situation lasts, it obviously will mean a significant change in the elements of the Swedish foreign policy. It is possible that the question whether Sweden should pursue its alliance-free policy or join the Atlantic Pact will lose a great deal of its importance. Sweden's membership in the United Nations and its interest in the organization's activities to prevent aggression and war are self-evident."

"Under these circumstances," Dr. Ohlin continued, "the possibilities for Swedish military discussions with Denmark and Norway, without political commitments of the defense-pact type, seem to improve. Nothing is more natural than that members of the United Nations, who

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in certain situations may be threatened by the same aggressive action, should discuss their common defense problems in advance."

"A neutrality policy of the isolationist brand has very few supporters in the Swedish Parliament," Dr. Ohlin further stated. "For a country which plays its part in the United Nations, in the Council of Europe and in the Marshall Plan organization, such a policy is simply impossible. The question whether Sweden should join the Atlantic Pact, on the other hand, has no current interest. Recent international developments now have made a further strengthening of the Swedish defense even more important than before."

THE SWEDISH AMBASSADOR in Moscow, Rolf Sohlman, and the Danish Chargé d'Affaires on July 24 delivered similar notes to the Soviet Foreign Ministry on the question of the territorial limit in the Baltic Sea. The notes emphasized that Sweden and Denmark, respectively, have never recognized the right of any country bordering on the Baltic to claim a territorial limit of 12 nautical miles. They further called attention to the fact that the European countries for centuries have applied certain definite rules about the territorial limit, which, so far as the Baltic states are concerned, has been 3 or 4 nautical miles. A legal situation has thus been established, the import of which is that beyond these territorial limits lie free waters, not subject to occupation according to international law. Any extension of territorial waters would, therefore, be tantamount to encroachment on the freedom of the seas where citizens of every country enjoy the right of fishing and navigation without interference from other states.

In reply to the Swedish note the Soviet Government on September 1 maintained its claim. The Russian reply refuted the

Swedish statement, claiming that no international rules exist governing the extension of territorial waters, and that each country is free to decide this matter for itself. The extension of Russian territorial waters, the Soviet note states, was fixed by a ruling of 1927, and no further extension has been made since then.

THE SOVIET EMBASSY in Stockholm on August 29 sent the Swedish Foreign Office a note which accused Swedish authorities of "lawless prosecution against citizens of the Soviet Union" by resorting to "treachery, threat, and violence." The note was firmly rejected on August 31 by the Foreign Office, which characterized the accusations as baseless and therefore, in fact as well as in form, insulting. The accusations supposedly concerned three Soviet nationals who disappeared from a Russian ship at Stockholm last September.

SWEDISH FOREIGN TRADE continues to expand, John Ericsson, Minister of Commerce, said in an address at the opening of the St. Erik Industrial Fair in Stockholm on August 26. Exports during the months January-July were worth 680 million kronor more than last year. Imports have also increased considerably, and the import surplus for the period was 288 millions, as against 173 millions in 1949. This trade expansion, Mr. Ericsson said, has been greatly facilitated by the Marshall aid to Western Europe.

The St. Erik Industrial Fair this year was larger than any of its seven predecessors. Most of the European countries, including Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland, but not the Soviet Union, as well as the United States took part. The number of exhibiting foreign firms was 700, as compared with 1,000 Swedish.

An ambulating Marshall Plan exhibit, which previously had been shown in France, Western Germany and other

countries, attracted much attention at the Fair. In his opening speech, Michael Harris, Chief of the ECA Special Mission to Sweden, said that the success of the Marshall Plan is shown not only by the Marshall exhibit, but by many of the others. "The number of available items, the diversity of goods, the high quality displayed, attests to the level of recovery stimulated by the Marshall Plan."

THE PACE AND VOLUME of Sweden's defense efforts gradually will be further increased. Decisions to this effect were reached at a series of conferences in September between the Government and leaders of the four principal parties, at the end of which the Prime Minister issued a statement to the press. The new measures include purchases of military materiel and speedier deliveries of materiel already ordered, the construction of new fortifications and military airfields, and an increase in the number of reserve officers. More air-raid shelters will be built, and other steps also will be taken to strengthen civil defense. Greater attention will be paid to the prevention of espionage and sabotage, and provisions also are being made for additional military hospitals.

THE SWEDISH ECONOMY, according to the Social Democratic conception, should be based on the free functioning of the market and freedom of consumption, Finance Minister Per Edvin Sköld said in an address in Hälsingborg on September 4. Competition among various kinds of producers, he continued, must be furthered and the freedom of the labor market assured. Governmental commodity regulations and price control systems obviously do not fit into such a society, but should be regarded as emergency measures. Remaining government restrictions of this type should, therefore, be abolished as soon as this can be done with-

out serious consequences. This applies also to rent control, although this will have to stay until the shortage of housing has been virtually eliminated. Nationalization, the Minister of Finance continued, is by no means a goal of the Social Democratic policy, and the same goes for government monopolies. But we do not, he added, want to renounce these means completely, for they may become necessary when the nation's resources in a certain field cannot be effectively utilized in any other way. As long as private enterprise obtains a satisfactory use of the productive resources, there is no reason for government to take measures encroaching upon private ownership.

The Minister of Finance went on to discuss a new system of collective ownership in industry and business, which he thought would be realized some time in the future. The leader of the Liberal Party, Professor Bertil Ohlin, who spoke on the same occasion, took issue with Mr. Sköld in this respect and said that he definitely preferred an economy that was free in the old meaning, but was also based on a strong sense of social responsibility. He added that the Labor movement should work for more producer cooperatives, something which would increase competition among various forms of enterprise.

AT THE ANNUAL Sweden-America Day, observed on Sunday, September 17, at the Skansen outdoor museum and folk park in Stockholm, Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf addressed an audience of some twenty thousand people. Speaking simply and with warmth, he said that by their life work Swedish emigrants and their descendants had built a bridge of understanding between Sweden and the United States, which received one million Swedes in one hundred years.

He emphasized the importance of trying to maintain the bonds between Ameri-

cans from Sweden and their old homeland. The main idea of the Sweden-America Day, he said, is to keep up and further develop this close association, which can only be to the advantage of the two countries.

PRIME MINISTER TAGE ERLANDER'S prediction that the municipal and county council elections on September 17 would result in a resounding national rejection of the Communist policy proved essentially true. The Communists lost more than two-thirds of their strength in the county and city councils, and their share in the total vote was reduced to somewhat less than five per cent. In the communal elections in 1946 the Communists polled 11.2 per cent of the votes, and in the elections to the Lower House of the Riksdag in 1948 they obtained 6.3 per cent. In a statement made as soon as the results were known, Prime Minister Erlander expressed his great satisfaction with the Communist debacle. It shows, he added, the Swedish people's sound reaction against a party which without reservation serves the interests of a foreign power.

The governing Social Democratic Labor Party displayed even greater strength than was expected, polling about 49 per cent of the votes as compared with 44.4 per cent in 1946 and 46.1 in 1948. The Liberal or People's Party, which in the Riksdag elections in 1948 made large gains and obtained 22.8 per cent of the votes, also had reason to be satisfied. As compared with 1948 its share in the electorate was cut slightly, or to about 21.6 per cent, but in the municipal elections in 1946 the corresponding figure was only 15.6 per cent. The Conservatives did not succeed in halting their regression, the party's share in the national vote being 11.8 per cent as against 14.9 in 1946 and 12.3 per cent in 1948, while the Farmers' Union went back somewhat

as compared with the previous municipal elections but maintained their position of 1948, or 12.4 per cent of the votes.

The elections were of national political importance because of the fact that the county councils and the councils of the six largest cities, which are not represented in the county councils, elect members of the Upper House of the Riksdag, about one-eighth of which is replaced each year. In these councils, the Social Democrats will now have 828 mandates (86 gains), the People's Party 356 (112 gains), the Farmers' Union 221 (21 losses), the Conservatives 146 (70 losses), and the Communists 31 (76 losses). The Social Democratic representation in the Upper Chamber, with a membership of 150, was reduced from 81 to 79, but as a result of the recent elections the party is likely to hold its own during the new four-year period.

The Red debacle swept a dozen Communists out of the Stockholm City Hall, among them Set Persson, one of their best-known leaders. The Liberals won 14 mandates, which more than offset the Conservative losses, and for the first time in many years the two groups together command a majority in the Stockholm City Council. The Social Democrats increased their strength by six mandates to 44, out of a total of 100. The Communists elected five councilors, but as a result of their heavy losses they will no longer be represented on any board or agency in the city administration.

IN A SPEECH BEFORE the United Nations General Assembly on September 26, the Swedish Foreign Minister, Östen Undén, condemned the so-called Stockholm peace appeal as misrepresenting the issues involved. Could it really be possible, he asked, that the peoples would be saved from the evils of war through a universal acceptance of the Stockholm appeal? "If this were the

case the capital of Sweden would be connected with the greatest miracle in the history of humanity. I regret to say that I consider, on the contrary, that the name of Stockholm has been used as a label for superstition."

Dealing with the proposals presented by the U.S. Secretary of State at the beginning of the general debate, Mr. Undén emphasized that anything that can be done to strengthen the practical possibilities for the United Nations to secure peace and to prevent aggression will be favorably considered by the Swedish Government. He added, as a general observation, that the possibilities of reaching important results through mere technical improvements in the machinery of the United Nations should not be exaggerated.

The Swedish delegation to the United Nations General Assembly also included Rickard Sandler, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Riksdag and a former Premier and Foreign Minister, and the Riksdag members Mrs. Ulla Alm-Lindström, John Bergvall, Knut Ewerlöf, and Sten Wahlund. Rolf Sohlman, Ambassador to Moscow, Erik Boheman, Ambassador in Washington, and Sven Grafström, Sweden's permanent delegate to the United Nations, are also members of the delegation.

ON THE ONE HUNDREDTH anniversary of the emigration to the United States of the Rev. Eric Norelius, founder of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minnesota, a memorial service was held in the church of Hassela parish, in the province of Helsingland, where he was born. Olle Nystedt, Primate of Stockholm, officiated. Afterward, a stone

marker was unveiled near the church, bearing a portrait relief of Norelius, who was described as a "pioneer of the Lutheran faith in the United States." Norelius received his divinity degree from an academy in Columbus, Ohio, and thus became one of the very first Swedish ministers who had studied for that profession in America. In 1855 he founded the first Swedish Lutheran Church in Minnesota, at Vasa, where he died in 1916 and where he lies buried.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE Count Folke Bernadotte, a street in Rome was named after him on September 17, the second anniversary of his death in Palestine. At the dedication of the tree-lined boulevard, located not far from the Piazza del Popolo, the diplomatic corps was well represented, and speeches were made by the deputy mayor of Rome and by the Swedish Chargé d'Affaires.

In Jerusalem, the anniversary of his death was observed with a brief ceremony at the United Nations headquarters and a memorial service in the St. Andrew Church. In Stockholm, wreaths were placed on his grave by the Swedish Red Cross, the Swedish Boy Scout Union, and other organizations in which he had been active.

Count Bernadotte's last book, *Till Jerusalem* ("To Jerusalem"), consisting of diary entries during the summer he served in Palestine, was published in Stockholm on September 16. It spans the period from May 13, 1948, to one week before his death, and was dictated in spare moments, during his frequent airplane trips, and late in the evenings. A reviewer in *Svenska Dagbladet* calls it Count Bernadotte's best book.

THE AMERICAN SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

*For better intellectual relations between the American and Scandinavian peoples,
by means of interchange of students, publications, and a Bureau of Information*

ESTABLISHED BY NIELS POULSON, IN 1911

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Trustees

HANS CHRISTIAN SONNE, Treasurer and a Trustee of the Foundation, is presently in Germany as chairman of an eight-man commission on a government assignment working on a plan to assist the Germans solve the problem of integrating ethnic German expellees into the economy of West Germany. These are not Displaced Persons, but Germans who have either fled or been expelled from Iron Curtain countries. The study which is being financed under the Economic Administration's Technical Assistance program and by the German Government, will cover such fields as labor utilization, housing, social welfare and small business and agricultural enterprise financing.

On May 15 Mr. Sonne, who is also Chairman of the National Planning Association, made an address before the students and faculty of Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. The address, which has been printed in pamphlet form, was entitled "‘Economics’ as Applied to Government Fiscal Policy and Debt Management."

HENRY GODDARD LEACH, president emeritus of the Foundation, gave again this autumn two courses in Scandinavian Civilization at the University of Kansas City, the first university in America to offer such courses. Dr. Leach lectured not only on literature, history, and art, but the scientific, industrial, and social progress of Scandinavia. Following these courses he lectured at the convocations of several colleges in Minnesota, and at Bethany College in Kansas.

LEIF JOHN SVERDRUP, through his firm, Aro, Inc., a subsidiary of Sverdrup and Parcel, was recently given the task by the U.S. Government to operate its \$100,000,000 Arnold Engineering Development Center which is being built in Tullahoma, Tennessee. This center, which will be completed in 1952, will be used for the testing of life-size mockups of jets, turbojets and rockets under conditions simulating altitudes up to 75,000 feet. Among the equipment to be used will be the largest supersonic wind tunnel in the U.S. A smaller facility will test guided missiles at simulated speeds up to

7,500 miles per hour. Mr. Sverdrup's assignment has been characterized as "one of the key jobs in keeping the U.S. ahead in the race for technical supremacy." During World War II Major General Sverdrup received the Distinguished Service Cross for leading the reconnaissance and capture of Lingayen Airfield on Luzon, and for his ability to hack out airstrips, almost overnight, in the jungles of the South Pacific.

Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen

Mrs. Adele Heilborn, Director of Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen, paid a whirlwind visit to the United States in September. Arriving in New York on August 31, she stayed in the city long enough to meet and speak to the American students selected to attend the Graduate School for English Speaking Students at the University of Stockholm. She then went to Canada, where she conferred with prominent Canadians who have taken part in forming the Canadian-Scandinavian Foundation. Mrs. Heilborn also managed to visit Cleveland, Washington, D.C., and to attend two luncheons given in her honor in New York. She sailed for Sweden on September 20 aboard S.S. Gripsholm.

Íslenzk-ameríska félagið

FOUR ICELANDIC STUDENTS have been granted scholarships through the facilities of the International Institute of Education, the Foundation and the IAF. These are Mr. Einar Benediktsson, going to Colgate University, Miss Svava Jakobsdottir, going to Smith College, Mr. Einar Siggeirsson, going to Cornell, and Mr. Thordur Juliusson, going to Oregon State.

The outstanding event of the last quarter was the visit by Dr. and Mrs. Leach. They were honored by the President, the Government and others, and their visit was a great boost for the work of the IAF as there can be no better ambassador of the ideals for which the Foundation and the affiliates work.

The IAF is now opening an office of its own. The address is Íslenzk-ameríska félagið, Sambandshúsinu. Reykjavík, Iceland.

Foundation Headquarters

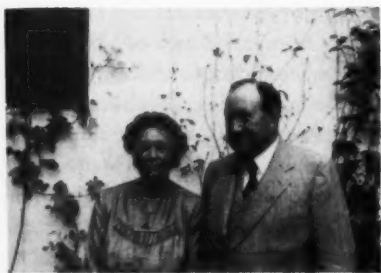
Many readers of the REVIEW will be interested in the history of the new building. It is in one of New York's finest residential areas, on the north side of 73rd Street between Park and Lexington Avenues. It was built about forty years ago

THE SCANDINAVIAN UNITY ESSAY CONTEST

There were no less than 76 entries in the Scandinavian Unity Essay Contest which closed on April 1st. Essays were received from Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, as well as Finland and the United States. As far as the majority of the essays was concerned, their high quality was as uniform as their choice of subject matter was varied, which, indeed, made the work of the judges an unenviable task. The winner of the Grand Prize of \$100.00 for the best essay is Peter Bruun Nielsen, Vimtrup, Denmark, who is now studying Law and Criminology at Ohio State University.

His essay on Scandinavian Unity in the Field of Jurisprudence was awarded the prize principally because of its triple merit of being informative, ably written and well organized. An English translation of Mr. Bruun Nielsen's Danish text will appear in a forthcoming issue of THE REVIEW. A few of the other entries have also been selected for future publication.

The Editors hereby take the opportunity to thank the contestants and the judges for their efforts and interest.



J. Sigfrid Edström

The Leaches in Sweden

to serve as the residence and studio of the late Charles Dana Gibson, creator of the "Gibson Girl." The building was designed by the famous American architect, Charles McKim, of the firm McKim, Mead & White. The exterior brickwork is among the finest in the city.

There are many points of interest in connection with the house. Each fireplace mantel was specially designed and hand carved in Italy. The staircases and banisters are unusual and represent the highest craftsmanship. Throughout there are beautiful hardwood floors of distinctive design. On the top floor there is a large studio where Mr. Gibson created his famous sketches. Mrs. Gibson, one of the former Langhorne girls and a sister of Lady Astor, is a frequent visitor and she still feels the Foundation is her home.

In 1945 Mrs. Gibson sold the premises to the late Frank Rieber. The first two floors were converted into an electronics laboratory where research on underwater sound devices for the Navy was carried out. The Riebers made several alterations and installed a large new self-service elevator. In addition, they added a fire escape on the rear of the building and installed a new furnace. The first two floors were renovated, adding a modern touch, yet in keeping with the basic character of the building. An air-conditioning system was partially installed. Much to Mrs. Gibson's chagrin, wisteria vines were planted to partially cover the front of the building with a coat of green leaves.

It is felt that the building is admirably suited for the present and future needs of the Foundation. Plans are now under way to redecorate and furnish the house in the best Scandinavian manner, whereby ASF headquarters will become, in a sense, a museum of the best representative work of the Scandinavians in the arts and crafts.

Gifts to ASF Library

The William Henry Schofield Library of the Foundation has during the last few months been presented with two valuable publications from generous donors. A copy of *Viborg Domkirke*, containing a description of the Cathedral and reproductions of the paintings and decorations of Joakim Skovgaard, has been given ASF by the estate of Mrs. Mary Frederiksen Ufer. Mrs. Ufer, with her husband, Mr. Walter Ufer, belonged to the famous group of painters of Taos, New Mexico.

A copy of the giant Norwegian edition of *Snorri's Heimskringla* was presented to the Foundation by Mr. and Mrs. John Darnall, Glendale, Ohio. The book bears the inscription, "Presented to the American-Scandinavian Foundation in loving memory of Andreas Hofgaard Wyller, pilot of the Royal Norwegian Air Force lost in action over the North Sea February 21st, 1944."

A number of books together with a beautiful Haakon 7 Orrefors vase was presented to the Foundation by Miss Guri Jaeger of Tucson, Arizona.

Former Fellows from Scandinavia

GUTTORM TOVERUD, Fellow from Norway 1917-18, a professor at the Dental School of Norway, won the Research Prize of the Royal Society of Medicine in London in 1948. He was recently returned to Norway after engaging in special research work in the United States.

BERTIL LINDBLAD, Fellow from Sweden 1920-21, Professor of Astronomy at the Royal Academy of Science and Director of the Stockholm Observatory, became a corresponding member of L'Academie des Sciences, Paris, in 1949, and received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Michigan in 1950.

BERTIL HANSTRÖM, Fellow from Sweden 1921-22, of Lund, Sweden, Professor of Zoology and Director of the Zoological Institute of the University of Lund, has been made an Honorary Member of the Zoological Society of France.

DR. J. RUD NIELSEN, Fellow from Denmark 1922-23, Research Professor of Physics at the University of Oklahoma, participated in a Faraday Society symposium on spectroscopy and molecular structure and optical methods of investigating cell structure held at Cambridge University, England, September 25-28.

GÖSTA MAURITZ ÅHLEN, Fellow from Sweden 1926-28, managing director of Tempo AB and Åhlen & Holm AB of Stockholm, has recently been made Knight Commander of the Vasa Order, Second Class. His previous honors include: Chevalier of the Nordstjärneorden, the Gold Medal of the Royal Swedish Aero Club, and the Finnish Lejonorden.

LT. COL. FRANS A. S. TÄGIL, Fellow from Sweden 1936-37, chief of the Standardization Department of the Royal Swedish Air Force, has been made Knight of the Vasa Order.

TORSTEN GORTH, Fellow from Sweden 1937-40, chief anesthesiologist at the Karolinska Hospital of Stockholm, has been made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine of Great Britain, and a Fellow of the Sociedade Brasileira de Anestesiologia of Brazil.

GEORGE HAMMAR, Fellow from Sweden 1938-39, Rector of the Kungsholmen

High School, Stockholm, has just published a 500-page book on psychology. His previous works include a book on the Danish dramatist Kaj Munk and a doctoral thesis on "Christian Realism in Contemporary American Theology."

GÖSTA FRANZEN, Fellow from Sweden 1941-42, has spent 9 months of research in Sweden, studying Swedish place names in Esthonia. He gave lectures in Uppsala, and took part in "Nordiska filologmötet" in Helsinki and Åbo, Finland.

ÅKE SANDLER, Fellow from Sweden 1941-42, of Stockholm, Sweden, underwent the examination for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Southern California at Los Angeles, in June.

The Foundation is saddened to learn of the death in Norway of EGIL SUNDT, Fellow in 1930-31. Mr. Sundt was 47 years old, and had been prominent in Norwegian financial circles, serving at his death as Director of the Norwegian State Railroads.

The California Chapter

The Annual Meeting of the California Chapter was held on March 26 at the Fenner Fuller Dining Room in Oakland. The chairman, Mr. Olof Lundberg, welcomed Mr. Lithgow Osborne, President of the American-Scandinavian Foundation, and the consuls representing the four Scandinavian nations. The following officers were elected: Mr. Olof Lundberg, president; Professor Arthur G. Brodeur, 1st vice president; Professor Sturla Einarsson, 2nd vice president; Reverend S. O. Thorlakson, 3rd vice president; Mrs. Adolf Pabst, treasurer; Professor Thomas H. Goodspeed and Mr. Herbert Seebohm, members-at-large.

Mr. Lithgow Osborne expressed his view that the California Chapter had been one of the most active of the Chapters of the Foundation, and because of its part in the establishment of the Profes-

sorship at the University had made a major contribution to the work of the Foundation. Miss Ellen Munroe Fussing, author of the book "... And the Streets Were Covered with Gold," gave an interesting talk on "The Value of an International Education in a Changing World."

A Regular Quarterly Meeting combined with a Dinner was held on August 23 at the Little Bit of Sweden Restaurant in San Francisco, which that night had been turned over entirely to the Chapter.

The President reported on a meeting of the Executive Committee held on June 15 during which had been discussed the possibility of appointing a Trainee Committee of prominent men in business and industry in the San Francisco Bay area for the purpose of facilitating opportunities for traineeships for young Scandinavians who desire to gain experience in practical American methods.

The speaker of the evening and the guest of honor was Dr. Julie Vinter-Hansen, Senior Astronomer at the Royal University Observatory, Copenhagen. Miss Vinter-Hansen had chosen as her subject "Astronomy in Denmark," and she traced its development from the time of Tycho Brahe, in the 16th century, to the present day. Dr. Vinter-Hansen's talk made it clear how, even in a country as relatively

small in population and reserves as Denmark, with a geographical situation not particularly favorable for astronomical observations, it has been possible to make not only significant, but basic, contributions to the science of astronomy—a fact which no doubt accounts for Miss Vinter-Hansen's own election to the Directorship of the International Astronomical News Bureau in 1947.



The President of the California Chapter





Scandinavia: Between East and West.
 Edited by Henning Friis. *A publication of
 the New School for Social Research; Cornell
 University Press 1950. 388 pages; \$4.50.*

This volume on the Scandinavian countries is remarkable in at least three respects; in the first place, these essays were first delivered as lectures at the New School for Social Research and it is not often that the spoken word translates itself so readily and so satisfactorily into the written word; in the second place, it is seldom that nine different writers are able to produce a unified volume as is true in this instance; and finally, the combined result of this collaboration furnishes for the first time a comprehensive interpretation of those features of Scandinavian life which are of deepest interest to Americans.

The first and foremost question which Americans ask about Scandinavia is this: How does one explain the historical fact that these northern nations do not follow the European pattern of ideological extremes? Why, when the rest of Europe swings like a pendulum between Communism and Fascism, do these countries continue to remain somewhere in the middle? What is the secret of their ability to avoid political polarities? These are important questions and the editor, Henning Friis, furnishes an astonishing answer. He insists that the answer to these questions is to be found in a simple sociological fact, namely, the persistence of small, face-to-face, voluntary groups. These small groups are the nuclei of democracy. In them the process of communication is maintained in such manner as to minimize the effects of mass propaganda. Thru such groups leaders are kept close to followers. And, what is perhaps of greatest importance, membership in these groups is comparable to participation in numerous democratic laboratories or workshops. The art of participation is thus acquired and participation, as Aristotle foresaw long ago, is the *sine qua non* of democratic success.

There is, moreover, something of significance in this volume for almost every variety of interest, with perhaps, one notable exception, namely, Scandinavian literature and art. Here one finds answers to such queries as the following: What is the basis of that peculiarly stable Scandinavian economy? How do these nations operate national economic planning systems without impairing any essential freedoms? What is the explanation of their singularly successful management of industrial

relations? What accounts for their outstanding achievement in establishing comprehensive programs of social security, welfare, and public housing? What special contributions to Scandinavian culture are attributable to adult education and the cooperative movement? These, and many other pertinent questions, are admirably treated by a group of specialists each of whom seems to have been chosen with uncanny perspicuity.

If there is one phase of this interpretation of Scandinavia which may perplex some American readers it is the chapter which deals with *Scandinavian Foreign Policy, Past and Present*. Mrs. Brita Skottsberg Åhman, formerly director of the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, set for herself a task which was obviously too comprehensive for a chapter of forty-nine pages. She makes a valiant attempt to explain neutrality but her explanation leaves some doubts in my mind. What she does make crystal clear, however, is the fact that throughout these last four troubled decades the Scandinavian countries have consistently and persistently believed in and labored on behalf of world organization for peace. They do not believe in power blocs. They have lost faith in the theory of power balances. They do not believe that the fate of the world will be humanely determined if brute force is to continue as the chief instrument of international policy. They persisted in these beliefs even when they were caught between Communist Russia and Nazi Germany. But at different times and under different conditions three of the Scandinavian countries have been invaded by either Nazi Germany or Communist Russia. And now, three of the Scandinavian nations, Denmark and Norway as well as Iceland, have become members of the Atlantic security pact!

Truly, Scandinavia stands between East and West in more ways than one. Geographically and ideologically these small but cultured nations stand in the middle. One prays that they may continue to conduct their important experiments in self-government along the Middle Way but, alas, we now live in a world in which there are no more "innocent bystanders." Peace is no longer the privilege of the "pure in heart." It may be that the fearful cleavages of our time are merely preludes to a future united world. This, we must of course continue to believe if we are to remain sane. And, if that unity ever arrives, we shall all turn, I believe, to these Scandinavian peoples and strive to emulate their humane, common-sense, reasonable and pragmatic ways.

In addition to a Foreword by Lithgow Osborne, President of the American-Scandinavian Foundation, there are contributions by Svend Laursen, Assistant Professor of Economics at Williams College, Peter Jakob Bjerve, Director of the Norwegian Bureau of

Statistics, Walter Galenson, Assistant Professor of Economics at Harvard University, Charles Abrams, Visiting Professor at the New School for Social Research, Edith J. Hirsch, lecturer at the New School for Social Research, Per G. Stensland, Associate Professor of Education at Kansas State College, and Gunnar Leistikow, New York correspondent of *Verdens Gang*, Oslo.

A concluding chapter written by the former President of the New School for Social Research, Bryn J. Hovde, who, by the way, originally arranged for these lectures and their publication, reveals the many close ties which exist between the United States and Scandinavia. An easy flow of both material and cultural "goods" has characterized the relation between the two peoples. President Hovde did not, by reason of modesty I presume, mention the great contributions made by a few Scandinavian immigrants to America but these are matters which probably belong in another context. His emphasis was upon the genuine partnership in democracy which forms the basis of understanding between Scandinavians and Americans. We may hope that this fraternal feeling endures, for democracy in our time has great need of unity.

EDUARD C. LINDEMAN

Columbia University

Challenge. A Saga of the Northwest. By Olga Overn. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. 1949. 302 pp. Price \$2.50.

Those readers whose delight is in literary complexity and microscopic realism will find *Challenge* not quite satisfactory. But to those to whom literature is a world apart from that of Income Taxes and Einstein, *Challenge* will be welcome.

Set in the Dakotas in the late 1800's, *Challenge* is the tale of an honest Scandinavian settler, Bjorn Samson, and his fight against boss rule and corruption. It is told with all the elements of a good Western; Indian trouble, a buffalo hunt, and a jail break. But these, instead of being played up, are used as background for the development of Bjorn into a man of insight and understanding of human motives. If the characters of the book are "over-simplified," it is perhaps because the point which they were created to illustrate is also simple and basic—but undeniably true.

Challenge could not stand comparison with another tale of Scandinavian pioneers—Rølvaag's *Giants in the Earth*—but it was not intended to. Miss Overn, who writes with a musician's awareness of the sound value and emotional overtones of words, has turned out a "juvenile" which is well above the average level for this type.

SARAH LANGLEY



THOR HEYERDAHL

Author of *Kon-Tiki*

Kon-Tiki. By Thor Heyerdahl. Rand McNally. 1950. 304 pp. 80 photographs. Price \$4.00.

The account of this young Norwegian's voyage on a raft with five scientific and adventurous companions 4300 miles across the Southern Pacific to the coral island of Polynesia appeared in Norwegian in 1948 and has already been translated into seven languages with more to come. In England it became a best seller and will no doubt prove so here. A London banker who read it telephoned to a friend to introduce to him a young Norwegian. When he shook hands he said that he just wanted to see a fellow countryman of Thor Heyerdahl.

Heyerdahl claims only to have proved that it can be done. But his readers will incline to the belief that Polynesia (not to be confused with Melanesia and Micronesia) was settled not by Asiatics, but the pre-Inca people of Peru and that they were white, bearded folk who came to America not from Asia but from Europe. The sweet potato is common to Peru, Easter Island, Hawaii, and New Zealand; the stone statue to Peru, Easter Island, Pitcairn, and the Marquesas; the stone pyramid to Peru, Hawaii, Tahiti, and Samoa.

H. G. L.

Three Icelandic Sagas. *Gunnlaugs saga ormstungu*, translated by M. H. Scargill. *Bandamanna saga* and *Droplaugarsona saga*, translated by Margaret Schlauch. Princeton University Press for the American-Scandinavian Foundation. 1950. Ill. Price \$3.00.

The English translations of these three sagas, all of them noteworthy in literary value and other respects, are a welcome addition to the numerous and significant earlier publications of The American-Scandinavian Foundation.

Wisely basing his translation of the *Gunnlaugs saga ormstungu* on the authoritative edition by S. Nordal and G. Jónsson (*Íslensk fornrit*, Vol. III, Reykjavík, 1938), Professor Scargill prefaces his version with a concise introduction. A fuller treatment on certain points might have been desirable, but this is, in a considerable degree, remedied by the extensive notes.

Professor Scargill happily avoids the archaism which has marred and made less readable many of the previous English translations of the sagas. His translation is both fluent and faithful, although there is, of course, in any translation some room for difference of opinion with regard to renditions of individual phrases and idioms. His treatment of the skaldic verses is best characterized in his own words: "My verses are merely rhymes, and they do little justice to the originals."

Professor Margaret Schlauch's study *Romance in Iceland* (1934) was a notable contribution and her translation of the *Völsunga saga* (1930) an equally splendid achievement. Her present translations of the *Bandamanna saga* and the *Droplaugarsona saga* come up to the high standard of scholarship set by her earlier works in the field.

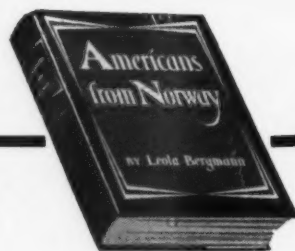
Both translations are based on the most recent and authentic editions of the two sagas, and in the case of the *Droplaugarsona saga*, the present translation is the first complete one in English. Both translations are also furnished with scholarly, penetrating and sufficiently detailed, introductions, and with valuable notes.

Like Professor Scargill, Dr. Schlauch has correctly chosen a straight-forward modern English language garb for her translations, which certainly is much nearer to the original Icelandic and the spirit of the sagas than artificially archaic English. Readability and accuracy go here hand in hand. The verse translations also retain much of the original flavor.

The illustrations by H. G. Glyde enliven the text and add to the attractiveness of this handsome volume.

All things considered, the translations of these three interesting sagas, which throw light on various phases of life in Iceland of old and ancient Scandinavia generally, should attract new readers to this remarkable branch of Icelandic literature.

University of North Dakota RICHARD BECK



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History of Icelandic Poets, 1800-1940.
By Richard Beck. Cornell, 1950. 247 pp. Price \$4.00.

At long last Professor Beck of the University of North Dakota has published this important book. It appears as volume 34 of the series *Islandica* in which volumes 32 and 33 comprised Dr. Stefán Einarsson's "History of Icelandic Prose Writers, 1800-1940." The great literary history of Finnur Jónsson, written in Danish and published in abbreviated form in Icelandic, takes our poets from earlier times down to the Middle Ages. The same is true of the short resumé by Sigurður Guðmundsson, school principal of Akureyri. F. C. Poestion, in 1897, brought out his *Isländische Dichter der Neuzeit*, which now is out of date. We had no comprehensive book on our contemporary poets until in 1949 Kristinn E. Andrésson produced his *Íslenzkar Nátíðarbókmenntir* ("Icelandic Modern Literature") 1918-1948. That book is satisfactory in many respects but somewhat motivated by social prejudices.

During the past twenty years, while Dr. Beck has been collecting material for this book, he has written much about Icelandic poets both in Icelandic and in English periodicals. He has also produced two volumes of verse of his own—one in English, one in Icelandic—and edited two important books: "Icelandic Lyrics" (1930) and "Icelandic Poems and Stories" (1943). One may say that he has shown the greatest diligence in performing the present task so well and that he alone is to be thanked. This book bears witness that he has critical acumen and has acquainted himself thoroughly with all recent creative verse as well as the criticism of other scholars about these works.

The "History of Icelandic Poets" is written with sensitiveness and perception. Dr. Beck's style is simple and light and, for a compendium, quite diverting and lively. At times, it must be confessed, he gives as much space to minor poets as to skalds of major importance, and often he is a little too generous. But this volume brings great honor to its author and will undoubtedly serve as a textbook in foreign universities where Icelandic literature is studied, as well as a household book for us Icelanders.

ALEXANDER JÓHANNESSON

University of Iceland

A Burnt Child: A Novel. By Stig Dagerman. Translated from the Swedish by Alan Blair. Chatto & Windus. London. 1950. 264 pp.

The present novel, by the foremost of Sweden's "men of the Forties", is appearing in English within two years of its Swedish publication. The theme, of a burned child not dreading the fire but returning to it, is developed in terms of Bengt Lundin, son of a Stockholm carpenter, who discovers on the day of his mother's funeral that his father's

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affections have already been engaged by her successor,—who turns out to be a woman in her forties, the ticket seller at a neighboring cinema. Bengt is himself affianced, but his deepest love, recognized only after her death, has been for his mother. He is outraged by his father's conduct, and plans revenge. But it is to be revenge on a spiritual level: the shaming of both parties to what he envisages as a horrible betrayal of conjugal love and of the dead. Bengt does not reckon, however, with his own inner psychic mechanisms. What actually happens will surprise neither an existentialist, who expects anarchical situations, nor a Freudian, who not only expects the same situations but knows them not as anarchical but as determined.

The author points up this psychological melodrama by presenting every feeling he portrays in terms of its own symbolism: for example, the candle for the dead wife at her funeral dinner and its recurrent appearances throughout the story.

The translator is sometimes too literal: Bengt never meets or speaks to his father or to his fiancée but to "the" father or "the" fiancée,—which has the curious effect of making them seem like marionettes. Occasionally, too, he misses an intended effect, for instance when he says: "A church clock struck thirteen, nine strokes of ore and four of crystal," where the word translated "ore" should be read "bronze." But in the main he has produced a forthright and readable version.

LLEWELLYN JONES

Swedish Songs and Ballads. Edited by Martin S. Allwood. *Bonniers*. 1950. 52 pp. Price \$1.00.

The indefatigable Dr. Allwood, assistant professor at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, N.Y., is the compiler as well as a co-translator of a partly admirable collection of Swedish songs and ballads. Carrying an introduction by Prince Wilhelm of Sweden, himself a poet, the slim volume helps to fill a long-felt need. Since each song is accompanied also by its own score, it should do much toward introducing Swedish music, all the way from Bellman to Birger Sjöberg, to a pure American audience, unfamiliar with the original tongue.

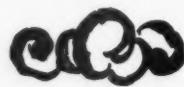
There are, in all, thirty-seven poems set to music, ranging from classical ballads to popular folk songs and modern sea chanties. Here are Bishop Thomas's rousing Freedom hymn; the eternally youthful Student Song; Wennerberg's "Oh, It is Divine to Linger"; Körling's marching tune, "Three Lassies"; Karlfeldt's superb "Sea Voyage of Jonah," his idyllic "Maiden Maria" and the lusty "Black Rudolph"; Dan Andersson's salty "Sailor Jansson"; Sjöberg's masterpiece, "The Time When First I Saw You"; Frans G. Bengtsson's battle song about the French King's Bandmen; Evert Taube's lilting "Fritjof and Carmencita"; Gabriel Jönsson's

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wonderful chanty, "Backafall Lassic"; and Nils Ferlin's haunting "In Arendorff's Time."

No fault can be found with the selection, which certainly spans several centuries, moods, and situations, and includes the works of famous as well as lesser known men and women. Many of the translations are excellent, notably Dr. Allwood's own spirited rendition of "Backafall Lassic," Helen Asbury's "The Time When First I Saw You," and Thorild Fredenholm's masterly "In Arendorff's Time." Several more could be mentioned because of their faithful, yet individual and artistic translation. Sandwiched between these, however, are a few poems which, it seems to me, bear the evidence of an ear poorly tuned to rhythm and meter; one or two, indeed, have the mark of haste or carelessness. To translate poetry is a hard and exacting task; to translate a poem that should be sung is even more difficult.

I admire Dr. Allwood for his boundless enthusiasm and his frequent show of skill and taste. His are valuable contributions to the knowledge in America of Swedish letters, and he is himself a versifier of merit. Dr. Allwood is always at his best when he takes his time—as who isn't? However, his exuberance sometimes gets the best of him, and his tendency to race along occasionally seems to dull his critical perception. As editor of this warmly welcome, though somewhat spotty, volume, he must accept a share of the blame as well as the praise to which his formidable battery of co-translators will be subjected.

Despite its faults, mostly of the small, but gnawing, variety, "Swedish Songs and Ballads" is well deserving of attention and of a wide sale.

HOLGER LUNDBERGH

Snowboot—Son of Fire Eye. By Maj Lindman. *Albert Whitman & Company.* 1950. 27 pp. Illustrations. Price \$1.50.

The talented and enterprising Maj Lindman, of Sweden, has just brought out one of her colorful little books for young boys and girls. In the current volume she tells, with the aid of her skilful brush and pencil, a simple but touching story of a colt with an itching hoof and the trouble his peregrinations caused his young master. A few escapades end happily indeed, but the third time it would seem as if "Snowboot" was lost forever. Obviously, the story ends happily and Bob retrieves his errant foal and in the bargain wins a new playmate.

The illustrations possess that gay, happy spirit which we have become accustomed to associate with Maj Lindman's best work. Her sense of color is as fresh and vivid as ever, and it seems to me that her horses are drawn with flair and accuracy combined. A book bound to enchant youngsters who are fond of animals—as who isn't?

HOLGER LUNDBERGH

The vivid chronicle
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THE MEMOIRS OF GUSTAF UNONIUS
VOLUME I

Jonas Oscar Backlund, translator;

Nils W. Olsson, editor

NOW in its first English translation, here is a vivid personal chronicle by an outstanding early Swedish pioneer. His experiences in traveling westward by the Erie Canal and locating a land claim in Wisconsin Territory, his association with the early Episcopal missionary, the Rev. J. Lloyd Breck, and his sharp observations on the American politics and religion of the time make this a valuable contribution to Scandinavian-American history.

First issued in Sweden in the early 1860's, Unonius' Memoirs stirred great interest among his countrymen and stimulated immigration to America. Translated by the editor of *Svenska Amerikannaren Tribunen*, Chicago. Edited by a U. S. public affairs officer in Iceland, on leave as assistant professor of Scandinavian, University of Chicago. \$6.00

*Published for the Swedish Pioneer
Historical Society by*

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS
Minneapolis 14

Swedish Silver. By Erik Andréén. *Barrows.* 1950. 160 pp. 101 photographs. Price \$2.00.

Swedish Glass. By Elisa Steenberg. *Barrows.* 1950. 168 pp. 93 photographs. Price \$2.00.

Here are two delightful books that are bound to please the connoisseur and collector as well as the amateur. Written by experts in their fields, these attractive and lavishly illustrated volumes treat their fascinating subjects exhaustively and authoritatively. Lillian Ollén has done a competent translation from the Swedish.

The book about silver is written by Erik Andréén, a curator of the Nordiska Museum in Stockholm and director of the famous open air museum, Skansen. He is co-author of an extensive series of volumes entitled "Swedish Silversmithing, 1520-1850." The foreword is by Baron Erik Fleming, Swedish Court silversmith and proprietor of the well-known Borgila Studio in Stockholm. He has twice conducted a silversmithing conference in Providence, R. I., attended by teachers and students from all over the United States.

Mr. Andréén draws a clear and comprehensive picture of Swedish silver, from the treasures salvaged from the Middle Ages to the exquisite pieces fashioned today by such outstanding artists as Fleming, Sven Carlman, Wolter Gahn, Wiwen Nilsson, and Per Sköld. Here are shown sober bowls and beakers from the Renaissance, ornate plates and candlesticks of the Baroque, lovely tea- and coffee-pots from the dainty Rococo period, elegant parade pieces of the Gustavian era, and tureens and canisters from the Empire, when sterner lines and less decoration again came into vogue. All in all, a wide and varied panorama and an enchanting journey through the centuries, with Mr. Andréén as an entertaining and initiated guide.

The book on glass, which covers more than five hundred years of manufacture in Sweden, bears a foreword by Edward Hald, the *maestro* of Orrefors. It is written by his daughter, Dr. Elisa Steenberg, who grew up on the Orrefors estate and later devoted years to the study of glass in her native country, its techniques, the foreign influence, and its development through the centuries. Her fund of knowledge is vast, her judgment balanced, and her style makes a reading of her book a delight for the expert and layman alike.

Of particular interest, and little known outside Sweden, is the story of the Kungsholm Glass Works, founded in Stockholm in 1676 by an Italian, Giacomo Bernhardini Scapitta. From this plant, which lasted until 1815, came many of the noble plates, bowls, chalices, goblets, and wine glasses, plain as well as elaborately engraved, that today are jealously preserved in public museums and private collections. The Kungsholm works was Sweden's first real factory for the making of glass of almost every kind, and thus preceded the Småland kilns by many years.

Dr. Steenberg then describes the founding of other important works, such as Kosta, Lim-

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mared, Gullaskruv, Eda, Reijmyre, Pukeberg and Strömbergshyttan. Of these—and a host of minor units—Kosta, although of venerable age, has shown and is showing a remarkable vitality. The artistic head of the firm is now Sven Erik Skawonius, and its chief designers are Viktor Lindstrand, formerly of Orrefors, and Elis Bergh, once an architect, whose tableware and decanters are of high artistic merit.

The unique history of Orrefors, now famous around the world, is dealt with in great detail. Here the absorbing text, as well as a number of stunning photographs enable the reader to grasp the variety of talent, the enormous skill, and the freshness and ingenuity that stamp the pieces of such renowned artists as Edward Hald, Simon Gate, Edvin Öhrström, Nils Landberg, and Sven Palmqvist.

Swedish Silver and *Swedish Glass*, although sold separately, are included in a new, handsome "Collectors' Little-Book Library" which Barrows has just brought out, and which consists of three more volumes of the same format, dealing with old dolls, American silver, and Wedgwood. The set comes boxed for \$10.00.

HOLGER LUNDBERGH

BOOK NOTES

A Short Guide to Denmark, by James White (116 pgs., illus., maps, price \$1.50) is a handy and useful guidebook for the tourist and traveler in the "Kingdom of Reason." Mr. White, a foreign correspondent who has lived in Denmark, has a Dane's knowledge of Denmark's culture, history, commerce, and natural beauty while at the same time being able to describe the country as seen through foreign eyes. The book is published by Andr. Fred. Høst & Søn, Copenhagen, and distributed in U.S.A. by the Scandinavian Book Service, 620 West 158th Street, New York City.

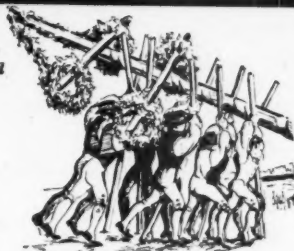
Rainy River Country, by Grace Lee Nute (1950. 143 pgs. illus.) appears as one in the series of publications of the Minnesota Historical Society. Being a brief history of the region bordering Minnesota and Ontario, it tells of the earliest Mongoloid settlers from Asia, the mound builders, the Sioux and the Chippewa, and the pioneers, Scandinavians and others, who helped build and develop this region. Dr. Nute is also the author of *The Voyageur's Highway*, a history of the border-lake country eastward from Rainy Lake.

Elias Bredsdorff continues his work to make Danish literature known in the English-speaking world with the publication of *Danish Literature in English Translation*. (Ejnar Munksgaard, Copenhagen. 1950. 198 pgs.) The book is an attempt to give a complete list of all translations from Danish literature into the English language since the first Danish book was translated in 1533 (Christiern Pedersen's "The richt vay to the Kingdome of heuine"), up to the middle of the twentieth century. The volume also contains a bibliog-

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raphy of books, articles and essays in English dealing with Danish literature, and a list of books and articles dealing with Anglo-Danish literary relations. A supplement, comprising one third of the book, lists the English translations of the works of Hans Christian Andersen, and also books and articles about him.

This year again the Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, is sending out *Christmas*, its "American Annual of Christmas Literature and Art." This American "julehefte," now in its twentieth year, just abounds in good reading and good art. Randolph E. Haugan is the editor of this beautiful Yuletide magazine.

The 900-years' anniversary of the founding of Norway's principal city was marked in the publishing world by the publication of *Oslo, the Capital of Norway*. Following an increasingly common practice, the Norwegian publishers have printed the English and Norwegian text side by side. In a series of illustrated chapters, by experts in their various fields, the role of Oslo in the cultural life of the country is ably brought out. This beautiful quarto volume gives a complete and vivid picture of Oslo as a center of art and culture, and indicates the position of Norway's capital in the culture of our age. The volume has

been edited by Carl Fredrik Engelstad, and is distributed in U.S.A. through Thyra Fjellanger's Book Store, Brooklyn. (Price \$4.75)

Sjanna Solum, whose lovely poem "Norwegian Heredity" appeared in the June Review, is the author of *Lodestone*, a de luxe little book of verse published by the same house that produced Gunhild Tegen's novellette *The Road to Santa Fe*: The Dierkes Press, price \$2.00. The gay, unwearied chastity of her sonnets is reminiscent both of New England and Norwegian ancestry, as well as the school of Robert Frost and Tristram Coffin. Her "Vermonters" will delight rebels against too symbolic verse.

John H. Kolehmainen of Heidelberg College has compiled a list of *Selected Finnish Publications 1946-1949*. Each Finnish title is accompanied by explanatory notes in English.

Johannes Knudsen and Enok Mortensen have published three articles on phases of Danish-American religion and culture in the booklet *The Danish-American Immigrant*, giving useful summaries of the history and achievements of the Danish Lutheran Church, Danish-American literature, and the Danish-American press. The booklet, price 75 cents, may be obtained from Grand View College Bookstore, Des Moines, Ia.



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The American-Scandinavian Review

VOL. XXXVIII

DECEMBER, 1950

NUMBER 4

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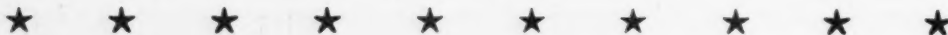
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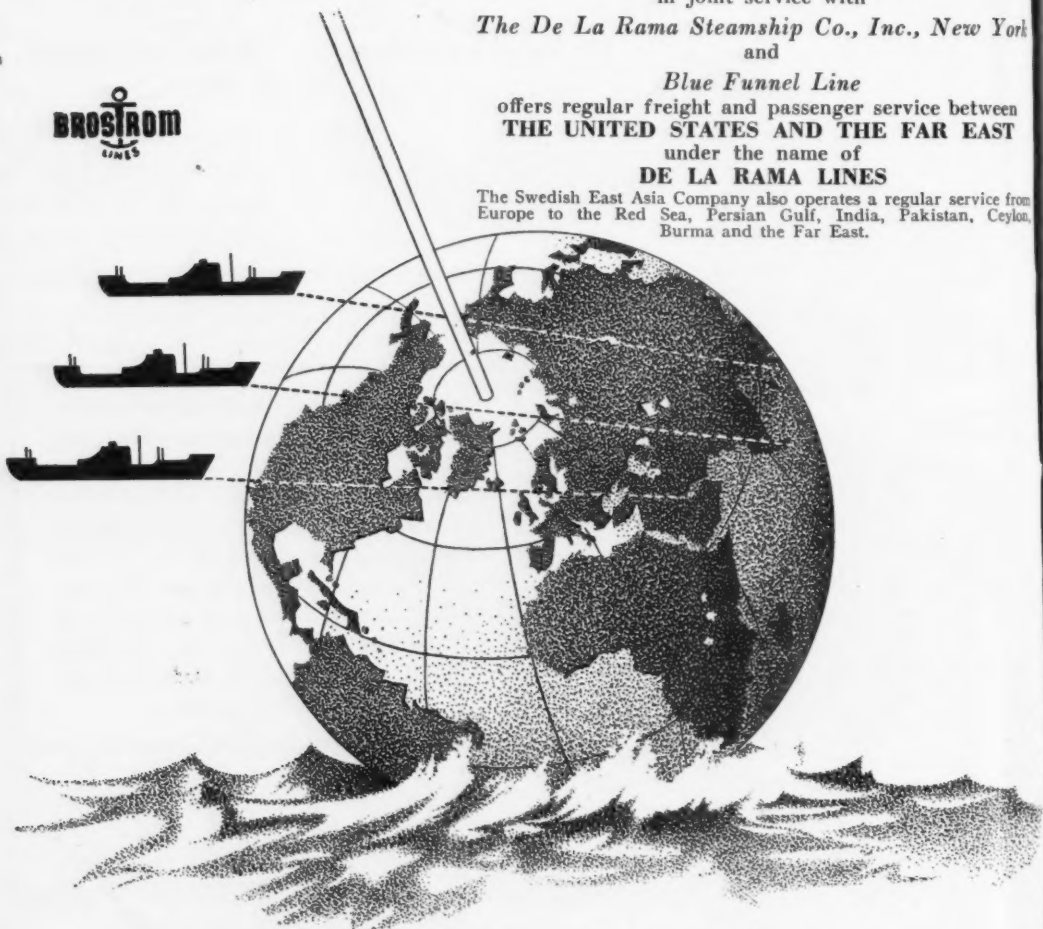
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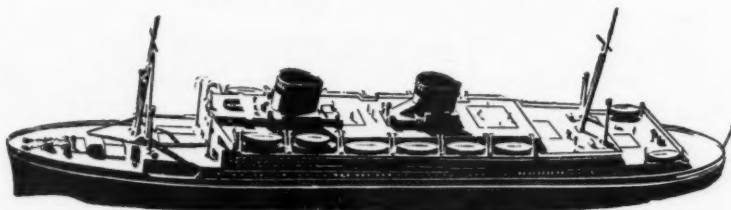
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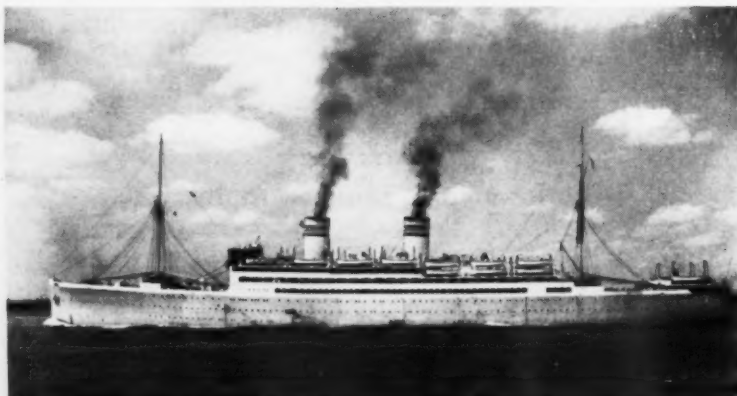
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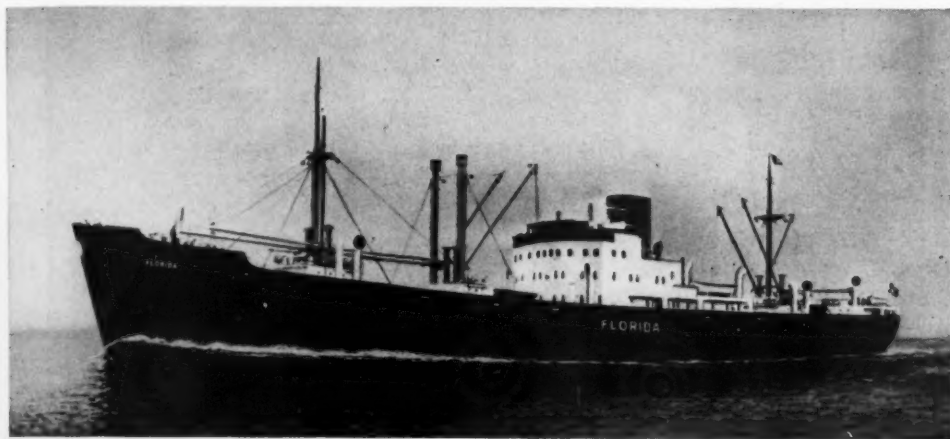
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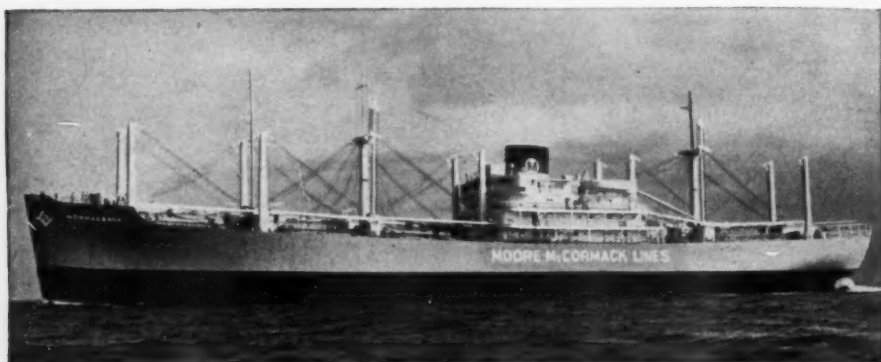
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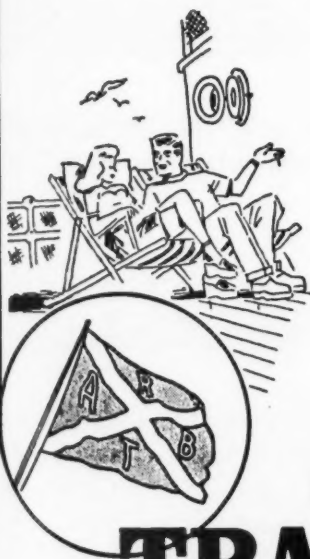
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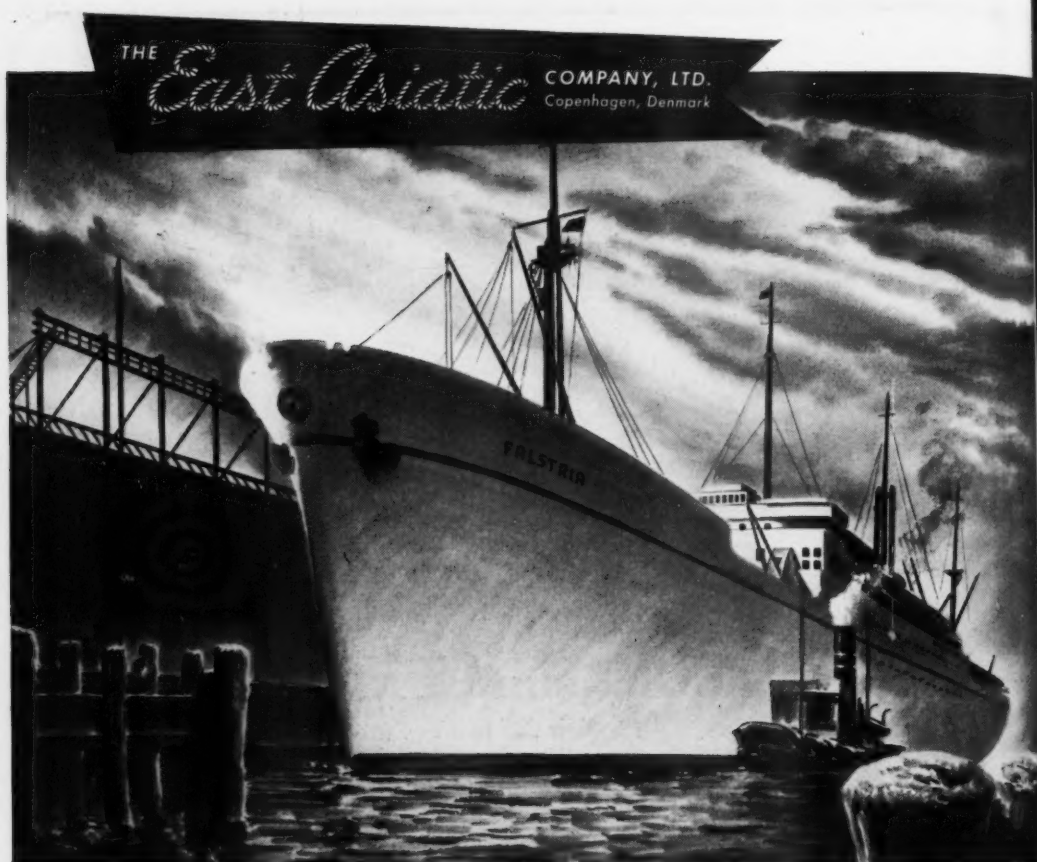


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Of THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW, published quarterly at Princeton, New Jersey, for December 1950.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher, The American-Scandinavian Foundation, 127 East 73rd St., New York 21; Editor, Henry Goddard Leach, 1021 Park Avenue, New York 28; Managing Editor, Henry Goddard Leach, 1021 Park Avenue, New York 28; Business Manager, Erik J. Friis, 127 East 73rd St., New York 21.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership, or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.) The American-Scandinavian Foundation, 127 East 73rd St., New York 21 (A non-stock corporation); Lithgow Osborne, President, 127 East 73rd St., New York 21; Hans Christian Sonne, Treasurer, 96 Wall St., New York 5.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

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5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above was (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

ERIK J. FRIIS
(Signature of business manager)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of September, 1950
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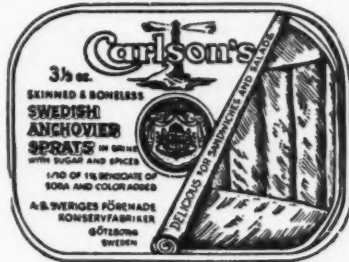
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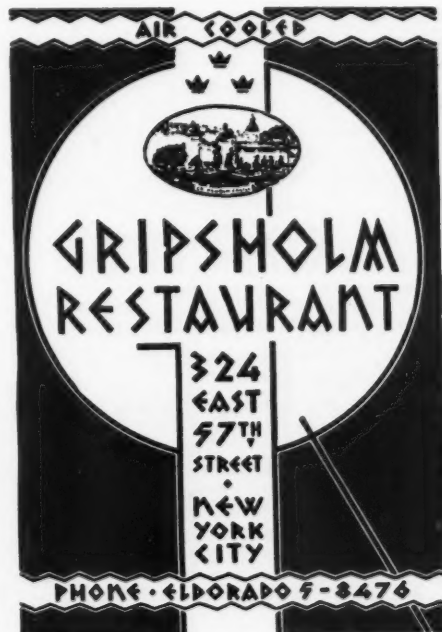
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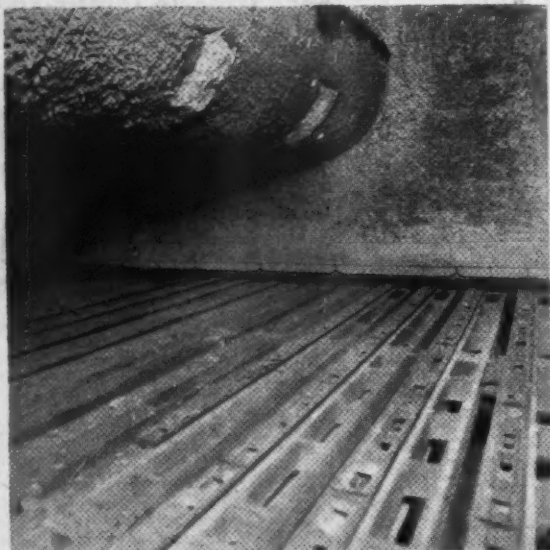
1. Norton Crystolon shapes are highly refractory . . . successfully resist temperatures up to 3100°F.
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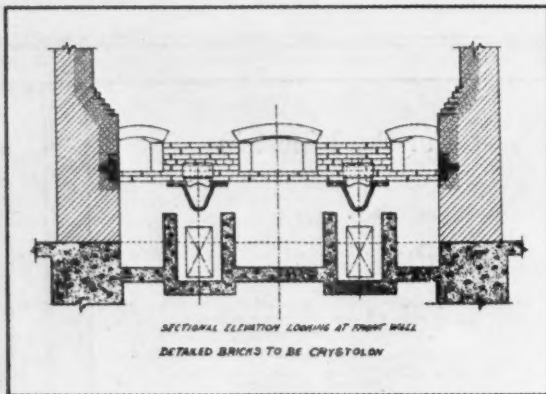
Norton Crystolon air-cooled blocks and solid bricks, with mating tongues and grooves for easy installation, come in any size and shape your furnaces call for. Norton Type A (rectangular), Type B (T-shaped) and Type C (U-shaped) blocks and bricks are also available for replacement purposes.

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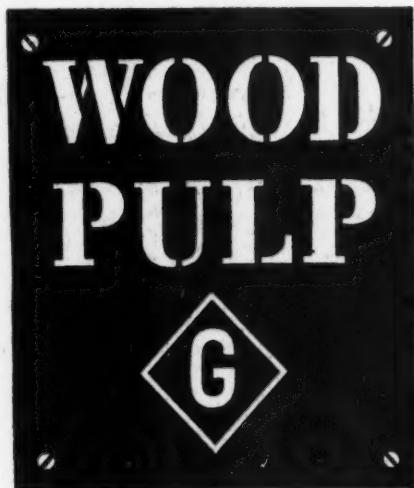


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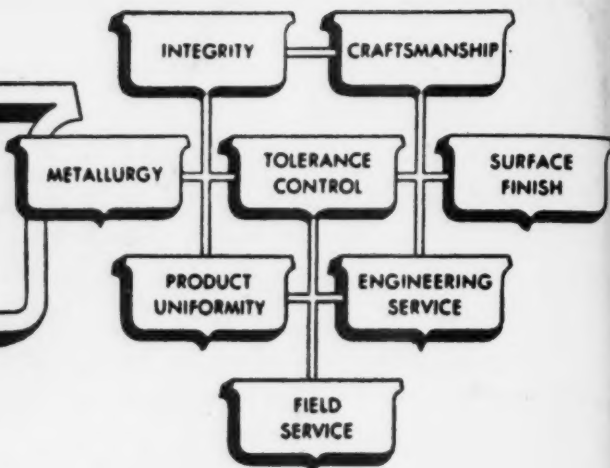


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